

THE PARAMOUNT COLLECTION

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MARCH 25-26, 2021 | DALLAS





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World & Ancient Coins Signature® Auction #3096

THE PARAMOUNT COLLECTION

March 25-27, 2021 | Dallas



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Thursday, March 25 • 4:00 PM CT • Lots 30001–30293
Ancient Coins 30001-30067
Albania - German States 30068-30293

Session 2 – Great Britain – Yugoslavia
Friday, March 26 • 4:00 PM CT • Lots 30294–30497

ONLINE ONLY Session 3
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Session 3 – Albania – Zambia
Saturday, March 27 • 1:00 PM CT • Lots 31001–31204

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HERITAGE AUCTIONS

Dear Bidder,

A world-class coin collection is a function of both means and opportunity, and requires patience and diligence that goes beyond even what most collectors possess. It is with that in mind that we can confidently say that the Paramount Collection is as world-class as they come. Built over many years, with pieces coming out of major auctions and dealer inventories from around the world, it is a collection unlike any that Heritage has had the pleasure to handle. With an eye not just for rarity, but also condition, collectability, and historical significance, the individual behind the Paramount Collection put together a group of coins that, presented together in one auction, is an opportunity unlikely to be matched in our lifetimes.

It is challenging to quantify how exceptional the Paramount Collection is. We can comment on the fact that there are dozens of lots that are considered unique, or that there are over 100 multiple ducats that are 5 ducat size or larger, or that there are many types that will be making their first auction appearance ever, but nothing quite does the Collection justice. Suffice it to say, this is without a doubt the most significant collection of World and Ancient coins ever offered by Heritage, and likely the most significant to come on the market in at least a generation.

Though nearly every lot warrants being a highlight, there are a few specific pieces that stand above the rest. While the ancient coins constitute a comparatively small section of the auction, there are two exquisite gold medallions, a 4 aurei of Maxentius and a 3 solidi of Magnentius, that deserve special attention. Moving into the world sections, the primary focus is on large size gold coinage of Central and Western Europe, as well as the Americas. Many of these issues were struck to commemorate marriages and deaths, document the tumult of wars, mark the beginnings of revolutions and reformations, and one in particular, the abdication of a King instead of his coronation. The singular piece that graces the cover of this catalog is particularly worthy of mention—the legendary 5 pounds of Edward VIII, one of only a few known and the only example to be sold publicly in at least several decades. The list of highlights continues, which is why we structured the auction and catalog in such a way that every lot receives proper attention.

In light of the fact that this is sure to become an integral part of any numismatic library, we have devoted extra care to this catalog and the descriptions for every lot. While it is unlikely that we will ever have the opportunity to handle a collection quite like this again, we are confident that this catalog will be consulted often, and remain on the shelf forever. This is in many respects a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, both for us as an auction house and you as a bidder. The Paramount Collection presents the chance to acquire pieces that could very well never surface publicly again, so we encourage you to bid with that in mind. As always, we are available for any questions you may have, and wish you the best of luck in the auction.

Sincerely,



Cristiano Birrenbach
Executive Vice President



Warren Tucker
Vice President, World Coins

SESSION ONE
THURSDAY, MARCH 25 • 4:00 PM CT

ANCIENT COINS

ANCIENTS

GREEK



Stunning Satyra Didrachm Plate Coin

30001 CALABRIA. Tarentum. Ca. 450 BC. AR didrachm (21mm, 8.19 gm, 6h). NGC Choice AU★ 5/5 - 3/5. TAPAΣ (retrograde), Taras astride dolphin right, both arms outstretched; scallop shell below / Head of nymph Satyra right, wearing broad diadem, hair in long braid turned upward behind; all within olive wreath. HN Italy 838. Vlasto 154 (these dies). Jameson 2389 (these dies). Cahn, Chronology 65. de Luynes 268 (these dies). Holloway 3 enlarged p. 96 (this coin). Fischer-Bossert 130a (this coin). Extremely rare and likely the finest example extant.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Ars Classica, Auction 13 (8 October 1998), lot 77

Satyra was the daughter of King Minos, who met with Poseidon and bore him his son, Taras. Antiochus, reporting from the Delphian oracle (apud Strab. VI 3,2), stated to Phalanthus "To thee Satyrium I have given, and the rich country of Tarentum to inhabit, and thou shalt become a scourge to the Iapygians." Phalanthus and the Parthenae settled Satyrium (named for Satyra - modern day Saturno on the southeast coast of Leoprano), which recent findings appear to indicate was the oldest Laconian site in Apulia.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$25,000



30002 CALABRIA. Tarentum. Ca. 332-302 BC. AR stater or didrachm (21mm, 7.96 gm, 2h). NGC Choice AU★ 5/5 - 5/5, Fine Style. Ca. 315-300 BC. Sa-, W- and S-, magistrates. Nude warrior on horse rearing right, shield and two lances in left hand, thrusting downward with spear in right; ΣΑ below / ΤΑΡΑΣ, Taras astride dolphin left, cantharus in outstretched right hand, trident cradled on left arm; Ω above arm in left field, Σ below, dolphin swimming left below. HN Italy 937. Vlasto 615. Fisher-Bossert 890. BMC 230. Crisp strike on lustrous flan. Very attractive in hand.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Genevensis, Auction 2 (18 November 2002), lot 7

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



30003 CALABRIA. Tarentum. Ca. 332-302 BC. AR stater or didrachm (21mm, 7.91 gm, 4h). NGC Choice AU★ 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Ca. 315-300 BC. Sa-, W- and S-, magistrates. Nude warrior on horse rearing right, shield and two lances in left hand, thrusting downward with spear in right; ΣΑ below / ΤΑΡΑΣ, Taras astride dolphin left, cantharus in outstretched right hand, trident cradled on left arm; Ω above arm in left field, Σ below, dolphin swimming left below. HN Italy 937. Vlasto 615. Fisher-Bossert 890. BMC 230. Struck from beautiful, fine style dies, with attractive rainbow cabinet toning throughout.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



30004 CALABRIA. Tarentum. Ca. 281-240 BC. AR stater or didrachm (21mm, 6.44 gm, 9h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 4/5. Ca. 280-272 BC, Sedamos, Fy- and Gy, magistrates. The Dioscuri on horseback cantering left; ΣΩΔΑ-Α-Μ-Ο-Σ below, ΦΥ monogram above / ΤΑΡΑΣ, Taras astride dolphin left, two spears and round shield decorated with hippocamp in left hand, Nike in right hand crowning him with laurel; ΓΥ in left field, waves below. HN Italy 1011. Vlasto 775. Well struck and centered on lustrous flan.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Leu Numismatik AG, Auction 86 (5 May 2003), lot 219

Estimate: \$600-\$800



Second Punic War Drachm

30005 BRUTTIUM. The Brettii. Ca. 216-214 BC. AR drachm (20mm, 5.01 gm, 3h). NGC Choice AU 4/5 - 5/5. Second Punic War issue. Draped bust of Nike right, seen from front with spread wings, wearing stephane, pendant earring and necklace, hair tied back in jeweled chignon; pentagram behind / ΒΡΕΤΤΙΩΝ, river god standing facing, nude, crowning himself with wreath in right hand, scepter in left, cloak draped over left arm; rudder (or thymiaterion) and Η (turned sideways) to right. HN Italy 1959. Scheu 34. Deep cabinet toning with flashes of rainbow hues and underlying luster.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



Apollo Chasing Daphne

30006 BRUTTIUM. Caulonia. Late 6th century BC. AR stater or nomos (30mm, 7.65 gm, 12h). NGC Choice AU 4/5 - 4/5, flan flaw. Ca. 530 BC. KAVA, full-length figure of Apollo, nude, advancing right, torso turned facing, olive branch in raised right hand, pursuing Daphne running right, head reverted, transforming into laurel tree with branches as arms; stag standing right in right field, head reverted, guilloche border / Incuse of obverse, reversed and without ethnic, save for olive branch and Daphne, which are in relief; striated border on incuse band. Noe 2. SNG ANS 150. An attractive and well struck example of this popular type.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex UBS Gold & Numismatics, Auction 56 (28 January 2003), lot 39

Caulonia was founded in the 7th century BC by Achaean Greeks, either emigres from the homeland or from the nearby city of Croton. The location, on the underside of Italy's "toe" on a headland jutting out into the sea, has in the centuries since disappeared beneath the waves. Underwater archaeology has located more than 100 fluted columns and two spectacular mosaics, both depicting dragons, in the ruins dating to the 5th-4th centuries BC. The columns were likely for a large shrine to Apollo, the deity depicted on the city's beautiful and intriguing coinage.

On this magnificent piece, Apollo's entire nude body is shown in a refined Archaic form, striding to the right, and with what has traditionally been described as a small winged daemon on his left arm; to his right stands a stag, sacred to both Apollo and his sister Artemis. However, the tradition of claiming the small figure as a winged daemon does not seem to be grounded in any evidence connected to either the city, or the mythology and iconography of Apollo. Most likely the iconography depicts the myth of Apollo's hopeless pursuit of Daphne. Apollo, upon seeing Daphne for the first time, had a moment of either love at first sight, or with some intervention of a certain god of love Eros, fell madly in love with Daphne. He began chasing her, and in order to protect herself, as she had vowed to be a maiden, she plead to her father, Peneus, for assistance. In response, Peneus transformed Daphne into a laurel tree, thereby thwarting Apollo's pursuit. Still loving Daphne, Apollo vowed to honor her for all time, thus the laurel tree, which is Daphne in Greek (Δάφνη), became Apollo's main attribute, with the laurel wreath he wore upon his head and the laurel staff he often carried. The laurel wreath thus became used as a prize for victors, as well as, symbol for the power of leadership. Therefore, the small figure on the coin that is running away from Apollo with branches in hands, or as arms, is most likely that of Daphne mid-metamorphosis. The artist that designed this coin type with the three figures placed in perspective, gave each a separate ground line and size to show a depth of field. Apollo is the largest and most prominent figure, and he is placed in the foreground. The deer is smaller and has its own ground line, placing it further back in the scene, in the midground. Lastly, there is the small figure of Daphne with her ground line behind Apollo's arm. She is the smallest figure because she is the furthest away. She looks back as she runs away mid-transformation. This was a very creative way to show the full story of the myth, stuck forever in a pregnant pause.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30007 BRUTTIUM. Croton. Ca. 530-500 BC. AR stater (28mm, 6.88 gm, 12h). AU, edge repair. QPO, tripod with leonine feet on thick dotted exergual line; heron standing left to right, large dotted border / QPO, incuse tripod, heron standing left at right; ethnic and heron in relief, striated border within incuse band. HN Italy 2081. SNG ANS 248-249. Edge repairs, thus ineligible for encapsulation.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Ars Classica, private sale with old dealer tag, No. 07474

Estimate: \$500-\$1,000



Fine Style Apollo and Lion

30008 SICILY. Leontini. Ca. 450-420 BC. AR tetradrachm (26mm, 17.46 gm, 2h). NGC AU 4/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Laureate head of Apollo left / LE-O-N-TI-N-ON, head of lion left with open jaws and protruding tongue; bay leaf behind, three barley corns around. Boehringer, Leontinoi 55. Rizzo pl. XXIV, 4. SNG ANS 257. Obverse with deep cabinet toning. Lustrous reverse with flashes of red orange toning.

From the Paramount Collection

The silver tetradrachms of Leontini show a notable progress of artistic styles throughout the fifth century, beginning with archaic depictions of a walking quadriga similar to issues of Sicily, to a highly stylized Apollo head of a "mannerist" style, to the final evolution seen with this beautiful issue of circa 435-430 BC, depicting Apollo in a highly refined and naturalistic form. Leontini's reliance on agriculture instead of sea trade is reflected on the barley corns surrounding the central lion on the reverse.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



Fine Style Hare with Dolphins

30009 SICILY. Messana. Ca. 425-413 BC. AR tetradrachm (25mm, 17.21 gm, 6h) NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. ΜΕΣΣΑΝΑ (retrograde and inverted), Nymph Messana, holding kentron and reins, driving biga of mules walking right; two dolphins confronted in exergue / ΜΕΣ-ΣΑΝ-ΙΟ-Ν, hare springing right; dolphin leaping right below. Caltabiano Series XIV, 536. HGC 2, 792. Crisply struck from fresh, fine style dies.

From the Paramount Collection

The coins of Greek Sicily abound with symbolism, the meaning of which is not always obvious to the modern observer. Messana, located on the northwest corner of Sicily and the third most populous city on the island, chose as its civic badges a chariot pulled by a pair of mules (biga) and a leaping hare. On this pleasing tetradrachm, the mule biga is driven by a woman, most likely the nymph Messana, while the hare springs over a similarly leaping dolphin. As to what it all means, we can surmise as follows: In 484 or 480 BC, a mule team from Messana won the Olympic Games in the event known as the anape (mule biga race); naturally, civic pride prompted the Messenians to advertise the victory on their coinage. The two dolphins seen nose-to-nose in the exergue likely refer to a military alliance with Syracuse. The hare is an animal sacred to the god Pan, who had a temple in Messana and was widely worshipped there. The dolphin below the hare harks back to the original name of Messana, Zankle ("sickle"), so named for its crescent-shaped harbor, of which the leaping dolphin's arched shape became a visual allegory.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



Fine Style Dionysus and Silenus Tetradrachm

30010 SICILY. Naxos. Ca. 430-415 BC. AR tetradrachm (26mm, 16.80 gm, 4h). NGC Choice XF 3/5 - 3/5, Fine Style. Head of Dionysus right, wearing taenia decorated with ivy-tendrils, hair and beard in loose array / NAΞION, Silenus, nude, squatting facing, head left, cantharus raised in right hand, thyrsus in left; stem of ivy vine at left. Cahn 103 (dies V66/R85) = Rizzo pl. XXVIII, 19. SNG Lockett 843 (same dies). SNG Copenhagen 493 (same dies) = Franke-Hirner, pl. 3, 8. SNG ANS 524. Gulbenkian 232. Struck from dies of fine style, deep cabinet toning throughout.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Ars Classica, private sale; Classical Numismatic Group, Auction 40 (4 December 1996), lot 811; Ariadne Galleries/Galerie Des Monnaies of Geneva, Ltd. Auction (New York, 9 December 1981), lot 38

According to legend, the wine god Dionysus had a strong attachment to the Cycladic island of Naxos, which provided the earliest settlers of its Sicilian namesake. Dionysus met his wife Ariadne there, and the island was one of his earliest cult centers. The cult of Dionysus features strongly on the coinage of both Cycladic and Sicilian Naxos. This beautiful tetradrachm of ca. 415 BC depicts the wine god in an almost melancholy and contemplative manner, with his hair and beard in tousled disarray, as though recently woken after an all-night revel. On the reverse, his compatriot Silenus squats, gazing longingly at his wine cup, his sculpted body rendered with remarkable skill and sensitivity.

Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000



30011 SICILY. Selinus. Ca. 540-480 BC. AR didrachm (27mm, 8.66 gm). NGC MS 5/5 - 2/5, brushed. Ca. 540-515 BC. Wild parsley (selinon) leaf / Incuse square composed of twelve alternating raised and sunken triangles. HGC 2, 1208. SNG ANS 671-3. Medium cabinet toning on obverse. Bright reverse, retoning with rainbow hues.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Leu Numismatik AG, private sale with old dealer tag

Situated on a vast plateau in southwestern Sicily, Selinus was founded in the late seventh century BC by Dorian colonists from Megara in mainland Greece. Named after a river god, Selinus was one of the earliest Sicilian cities to embrace the invention of coinage. Its first coins, struck on the Corinthian standard in circa 540 BC, bore a selinon (celery) leaf as a canting pun on the city name.

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



Fine Style "Star" Gelon Tetradrachm

30012 SICILY. Syracuse. Deinomenid Tyranny (ca. 485-466 BC). AR tetradrachm (26mm, 17.28 gm, 11h). NGC AU★ 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Time of Gelon I, 485-480 BC. Charioteer driving quadriga walking right, kentron in right hand, reins in both; Nike flying right above to crown horses, all on double exergual line, dotted border / ΣΥΡ-ΑQO-ΣΙ-ON, head of Arethusa right, wearing taenia, pendant earring and two necklaces, hair in long straight beaded rows; four dolphins swimming clockwise around. HGC 2, 1304. Boehringer Series IV, 46. SNG ANS 10. Superbly struck and centered on lustrous flan - truly exceptional in hand.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Ars Classica 13 (8 October 1998), lot 428

Originally settled by Corinthian colonists in circa 730 BC, Syracuse grew rapidly to dominate all Sicily and become one of the foremost cities in the Greek world. Its coinage commenced in the late sixth century BC with Attic-weight silver tetradrachms depicting a walking quadriga, and a reverse design featuring a tetraskelion incuse punch that soon featured a small female head within a central circle. By circa 590 BC, the incuse punch had disappeared and the female head, now much larger and clearly a representation of the spring nymph Arethusa, was surrounded by dolphins, likely an allegorical reference to Sicily itself. The earliest numismatic depictions of the nymph Arethusa display fully Archaic conventions, including a frontal eye, a rather stern countenance, and hair shown in parallel waves, the back pulled up and passed through a pearl hair band, emerging as a "splash" at the back of the head. This attractive die, created circa 480 BC, gives Arethusa a softer, more contoured appearance that was clearly the work of an artist of great skill and sensitivity.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$25,000



Triple Signed "Star" Fine Style Kimon Decadrachm

30013 SICILY. Syracuse. Time of Dionysius I (406-367 BC). AR decadrachm (36mm, 43.40 gm, 6h). NGC (photo-certificate) Choice AU★ 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Obverse and reverse dies triple signed by Kimon, ca. 405-400 BC. Racing quadriga driven left by charioteer, reins in left hand, kentron in right; Nike flying right in field above to crown him, military arms, including aspis (shield), greaves, cuirass, and crested Attic helmet, all joined by horizontal spear, AΘΛΑ ("prizes") all below thick exergue line signed KIMΩN on top, dotted border / ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩ, head of Arethusa left, wearing single-pendant earring and pearl necklace, curly hair confined by ampyx and net sphendone, die engraver's signature K on ampyx, four dolphins swimming around, KIMΩN signature on dolphin under neck, dotted border. Jongkees 3. HGC 2, 1298. Gulbenkian 303. Struck from mountainous high relief fine style dies on superb flan with lovely rainbow toning. A breathtaking representation of one of the ancient world's greatest numismatic masterpieces.

From the Paramount Collection

Syracuse had been striking its own coins for about a century, when in circa 405 BC it began issuing the stunning series of silver decadrachms by Kimon and Euainetos. These huge, impressive coins were struck in considerable numbers, probably to pay the Greek mercenary soldiers who flooded Sicily to fight the expanding power of Carthage. They stand at the pinnacle of Greek numismatic achievement and served as a paradigm for Hellenistic art in the ages to follow. Kimon's decadrachm design, as exemplified by this impressive piece, features a highly individualized and realistic head of Arethusa, clearly modeled on a real-life Greco-Sicilian woman. Her hair is bound in an elaborate jeweled net and a wide hairband, or ampyx, that carries his abbreviated signature (K). On the obverse, Kimon's four-horse chariot races to the left at breakneck speed while the goddess Nike flies serenely above, reaching out with a laurel wreath to crown the victorious charioteer. Below this scene, in the exergue beneath the ground line, are arrayed the prize trophies - a military cuirass, greaves and a helmet, labeled AΘΛΑ ("athla" or prizes, from which the term athlete derives), rendered with exceptional detail here due to the fresh die state.

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



Fine Style "Star" Jenkins Plate Coin

30014 SICILY. Siculo-Punic. Ca. 300-289 BC. AR tetradrachm (26mm, 16.94 gm, 6h). NGC AU★ 5/5 - 5/5, Fine Style. Quaestors issue. Head of young Heracles right, wearing lion skin headdress, paws tied before neck / 'MHSBM (Punic, read right to left), head and neck of horse left; astragalus in left field, palm tree behind. HGC 2, 295. Jenkins, SNR 57, 366Y (this coin). Struck from magnificent high relief dies. Deep cabinet toning throughout.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Genevensis, Auction (18 November 2002), lot 27

The location of the main Carthaginian mint in Sicily, identified by Punic inscription as "The Camp," has long been a matter of conjecture and dispute. Recent research, adopted by Oliver Hoover in his Handbook of Coins of Sicily (CNG 2012), suggests the "Camp" mint to have been Entella - a fortress-like city located in central-west Sicily. Founded by the Trojans in the 500s BC, Entella was conquered by a group of Campanian mercenaries in about 410 BC who quickly sold their services to the Carthaginians (alternatively, the Campanians might have been employed by Carthage before they took the city). The city remained a Punic stronghold through most of the fourth century BC, although the Syracusan tyrant Timoleon briefly drove them out circa 342 BC (a peace treaty dividing Sicily into Greek and Carthaginian spheres of interest in 338 BC returned Entella to Punic control). The Siculo-Punic coinage of Entella seems to have been intended mainly to pay mercenary soldiers who were used to being paid in a Greek standard, as the silver tetradrachms adhere closely to the Attic weight standard. Designs were usually based on the ubiquitous issues of Syracuse (obverse), but with reverses displaying their Carthaginian allegiance (the date palm tree, φοινῖξ in Greek, is likely a canting pun on the term Phoenician). Horses also feature prominently, likely referring to the outstanding cavalry of the Carthaginians and their Campanian allies. Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



Impressive First Punic War Shekel Multiple

30015 SICILY. Siculo-Punic. Ca. 264-260 BC. AR 5-shekels or decadrachm (40mm, 36.29 gm, 12h). NGC (photo-certificate) AU 5/5 - 3/5, Fine Style. Punic standard. Sicilian mint, ca. 264 BC. Head of Tanit left, hair wreathed with grain ears, wearing single-pendant earring; finely dotted border / B'RST (Punic, read right to left), Pegasus flying right; finely dotted border. SNG Copenhagen 180. Kraay-Hirmer 211. SNG Fitzwilliam 1512. SNG Lloyd 1665. AMB 567. Jenkins Punic Sicily IV, 435 and pl. 17. An exceptionally attractive and beautifully toned example of this early First Punic War issue.

From the Paramount Collection

Carthage, a Phoenician colony on the coast of North Africa, became a maritime powerhouse in the fifth century BC and challenged the Greek cities of Sicily and Southern Italy for control of the western Mediterranean. By the early third century, much of Sicily had fallen under Carthaginian control and mints were established on the island to produce coins used to pay the largely mercenary army. The stage was now set for the collision with Rome, newly dominant in Italy. Starting in 265 BC, Carthage and Rome fought three titanic wars that produced more death and destruction than any other conflict before the 20th century.

This massive silver piece was struck during the First Punic War with Rome (264-241 BC) and was of the earliest phase, being on the Punic instead of the Attic standard. Jenkins translated the Punic as meaning "in the land," perhaps a statement by the Carthaginians they were the rightful occupants of Sicily, as opposed to the newly arrived Romans.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Rainbow Toned Fine Style Macedonian Masterpiece

30016 MACEDONIAN KINGDOM. Demetrius I Poliorcetes (306-283 BC). AR tetradrachm (28mm, 17.87 gm, 12h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 3/5, Fine Style, light smoothing. Tarsus, 298-295 BC. Nike standing left on prow of galley left decorated with apotropaic eye, sounding trumpet in right hand, cradling stylis in left arm / ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ-ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ, Poseidon, nude, striding left, seen from behind, net draped over extended left arm, preparing to throw trident held in right hand; ΠΑΡ monogram in left field, ΦΑΝ monogram in right field. Newell -, cf. 33 (stater) for the reverse monograms, and 36 (tetradrachm) for the types. Deep, fiery toning on obverse. Extremely rare.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Leu Numismatik AG, Auction 86 (5 May 2003), lot 364; Giessener Münzhandlung, Auction 67 (2 May 1994), lot 122

The most dashing of Alexander's successors, Demetrius I Poliorcetes was the son of the great Macedonian general Antigonos Monophthalmus ("one-eyed"), who served both Philip II and Alexander III the Great. After Alexander's death, Demetrius led armies in support of his father's claim to supreme power. He won an important naval victory in 306 BC at Salamis against the Ptolemaic fleet. He, along with his father, accepted the title Basileos ("king"), ending the fiction that the Diadochi were ruling a united government. In 305 BC, Demetrius subjected Rhodes to a monumental siege, employing the largest and most elaborate artillery engines and battle towers yet constructed. Ultimately unsuccessful, the siege still won him the epithet Poliorcetes ("besieger"), by which he is still known. He had more success ruling Macedon during 301-288 BC, but his extravagance and capricious nature eventually proved his undoing and he spent his waning years in comfortable Seleucid captivity. Still, the dynasty he established endured in Macedon until 168 BC. This dynamic tetradrachm type was struck at several mints in honor of the great naval victory over Ptolemy at Salamis, with the obverse image of Nike matching closely with the famous marble statue of the winged goddess found at Samothrace and now housed in the Louvre. The reverse image of Poseidon is rendered here in wonderful style, an undeniable masterpiece of anatomical relief sculpture in miniature.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



"Star" Perseus Tetradrachm

30017 MACEDONIAN KINGDOM. Perseus (179-168 BC). AR tetradrachm (33mm, 15.48 gm, 11h). NGC Choice AU★ 5/5 - 4/5. Pella or Amphipolis, 173-171 BC. Diademed head of Perseus right, with close beard / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΠΕΡΣΕΩΣ, eagle with spread wings standing right on thunderbolt; ΜΑ monogram above, ΑΥ monogram in right field, Φ between legs; all within oak wreath, plow right below. Mammoth, Perseus, 18b. SNG Alpha Bank 1132 var. (monogram between legs). SNG Ashmolean 3276 var. (same). Scattered red orange toning on bright surfaces.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Classical Numismatic Group, Web Shop (December 2002), stock number 182226

The last independent king of Macedon, Perseus inherited the throne from his father Philip V after the latter had his pro-Roman son Demetrius executed. Thus the tone was set from the outset of his reign for an eventual clash, which proved fatal to the Antigonid monarchy and Macedonian independence. Perseus skillfully rebuilt the Macedonian army and a network of marriage alliances during the first years of his reign, which the Romans watched with rising alarm. The Third Macedonian War broke out in 171 BC, and for a time Perseus employed guerrilla tactics which gave him the initiative and kept the Romans on their heels. Like his father, though, he chose to risk all in a single pitched battle at Pydna and lost badly to the Roman general Lucius Aemilius Paullus. Perseus surrendered and was allowed to live out his life in comfortable captivity in Rome; the Macedonian Kingdom was divided into four theoretically autonomous Republics which were soon subsumed into direct Roman rule. The coinage of Perseus is one of the more attractive of the Hellenistic series, as can be seen here with the star designation for superior eye appeal.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30018 MACEDON UNDER ROME. Aesillas, as Quaestor (ca. 95-65 BC). AR tetradrachm (31mm, 16.88 gm, 11h). NGC MS★ 4/5 - 5/5. Uncertain mint, 93-92 BC. MAKEΔONΩN, head of Alexander III the Great of Macedon right, wearing horn of Ammon; BE monogram below chin / AESILLAS, money chest, club and quaestor's chair; Q in right field, all within wreath. SNG Copenhagen 1327. SNG Ashmolean -. Stunning portrait in high relief with violet toning throughout.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30019 MOESIA. Istrus. Ca. 4th century BC. AR drachm (19mm, 5.83 gm, 12h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 4/5. Two facing male heads; the left inverted / ΙΣΤΡΙΑΙ, sea eagle flying left, grasping dolphin left with talons; A below. BMC 2 var (right head inverted). SNG Copenhagen -. SNG BM Black Sea 240. Struck from fresh, high relief dies, on good metal with subdued luster.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



Extremely Rare Lactating Lioness

30020 THRACO-MACEDONIAN. Uncertain city. Ca. 525-475 BC. EL stater (23mm, 13.97 gm). NGC Choice XF 3/5 - 4/5, flan flaw. Lydo-Milesian standard. Lactating lioness advancing left, lowered head facing / Two rectangular incuses divided by a narrow band. Linzalone 1173. Very rare - less than five examples in sales archives. Gleaming flan with areas of orange toning around the devices.

From the Paramount Collection

The lactating lioness as a numismatic type overall is extremely rare. The three other issues with similar imagery are a Phocaeian standard electrum stater, showing lioness walking right, head reverted; a Milesian standard electrum stater with lioness reclining right; and a silver stater from Colchis with a maned lioness crouching right with head reverted.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$20,000



Ares with Horse Tribal Octodrachm

30021 THRACO-MACEDONIAN TRIBES. The Bisaltae. Ca. 480-465 BC. AR octodrachm (32mm, 29.04 gm). NGC AU 5/5 - 4/5, light marks. Graeco-Asiatic standard. B-ΙΣ-ΑΛ-Τ-Ι-Κ-Ο-Ν, bridled horse prancing right, nude warrior 'Ares' standing right on his far side, shoulders facing, wearing causia, two horizontal spears in right hand / Shallow, stippled, quadripartite incuse square. MGK 407 (this coin). cf. Svoronos plate XI, 6 (legend breaks). Traité I, 1489, pl. XLV, 1. A superior example, with excellent use of depth. The horse and Ares are magnificently toned and appear to be on separate planes.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Leu Numismatik AG, Auction 83 (6 May 2002), lot 164; Sotheby's London (5 July 1995), lot 45; Münzen und Medaillen, Auction 77 (18 September 1992), lot 60

The Bisaltae were one of the powerful Thraco-Macedonian tribes that struck coinage in the late 6th and early 5th centuries.
Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000



Popular Pomeranian Issue

30022 THRACE. Maroneia. Ca. 410-385 BC. AR stater (23mm, 11.38 gm, 11h). NGC MS 5/5 - 3/5, Fine Style, scratches, brushed. Callicrateus, magistrate. Bridled horse prancing left, with loose reins; dog (Pomeranian?) standing left below with curled tail / ΕΠΙ Κ-ΑΛΛ-ΙΚΡΑ-ΤΕΟΣ, legend around square linear frame enclosing vine with four grapes-clusters; all within incuse square. SNG Copenhagen 603. Lambros 1905. Schönert-Geiss 490 (V34/R59). Well struck from fantastically artistic dies on lustrous flan.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Classical Numismatic Group, Web Shop, stock number 251726

Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000



30023 ATTICA. Athens. Ca. 440-404 BC. AR tetradrachm (24mm, 16.97 gm, 12h). NGC AU 5/5 - 2/5, graffiti. Mid-mass coinage issue. Head of Athena right, wearing crested Attic helmet ornamented with three laurel leaves and vine scroll / ΑΘΕ, owl standing right, head facing; olive sprig with berry and crescent moon behind, all within incuse square. HGC 4, 1597. SNG Copenhagen 31-40. Kroll 8. Slate toning with underlying luster.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



Captivating Pan Portrait

30024 CIMMERIAN BOSPORUS. Panticapaeum. Ca. 340-320 BC. AV stater (21mm, 9.10 gm, 11h). NGC AU 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Ca. 340-325 BC. Head of bearded Satyr (or Pan) left, wreathed with ivy bough / Π-A-N, griffin standing left, head facing, holding spear in its mouth, right forepaw raised, on grain ear left. MacDonald 54. Anokhin 1021. HGC 7, 20. SNG BM Black Sea 867. Gulbenkian 590. Magnificently styled and carefully centered portrait perfectly complements the powerful imagery on the reverse. Flashy underlying luster.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Leu Numismatik, Auction 86 (5 May 2003), lot 309

Starting out as a Greek trading post on the northern Black Sea coast settled by Milesian pioneers in the 7th century BC, Panticapaeum soon grew into a thriving city and home to the Spartocid kings - dynastic Greek rulers of the Bosphorus. The city's fabulous wealth derived from its fertile grain fields and the thriving fishing industry of the northern Black Sea, all leading to a rich trade with the cities of mainland Greece and Asia Minor. This wealth is attested by its gold coins, which are typically larger and weightier than contemporary Greek gold pieces, and depict a wild-eyed satyr thought to represent the city's patron god and namesake, Pan. Here, Pan is shown with an expression evoking his role in sowing discord and fear (hence the term "panic") in enemy armies. While categorized as a mythological creature today, the griffin depicted on the reverse was very real to the Greeks of the Thracian hinterland, where it was thought to live. Griffins were said to be highly covetous of gold, a trait carried over into medieval conceptions of the dragon.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Dated "Star" Fine Style Mithradates Tetradrachm

30025 PONTIC KINGDOM. Mithradates VI Eupator the Great (120-63 BC). AR tetradrachm (37mm, 16.72 gm, 11h). NGC MS★ 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Dated Seleucid Era 213, 1st month (85/4 BC). Diademed head of Mithradates VI right, with windswept hair / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΜΙΘΡΑΔΑΤΟΥ / ΕΥΠΑΤΟΡΟΣ, stag standing left on ground line, head lowered to graze; star within crescent above ΠΡΦ monogram to left, ΓΙΣ (date) above ΜΑΚΕ monogram to right, Α (month) below, all within ivy wreath. DCA 688. HGC 7, 338. De Callatay p. 16. Hunterian 3. Struck from fresh dies of magnificent fine style on massive flan. Truly superb.

From the Paramount Collection

Mithradates VI was a consistent thorn in the side of Rome for several decades. Soon after inheriting the throne of Pontus, Mithradates displayed an ambition his small kingdom could not contain. Observing growing resentment to Roman greed, he portrayed himself as the leader of resistance against Rome's suffocating hand. He launched a five-year war against Rome in 88 BC by invading Asia Province and massacring 80,000 Italian civilians. This led to a vigorous response led by the Roman general Sulla. But, on the verge of victory, Sulla was forced by political turmoil at home to sign a treaty restoring the pre-war status quo. A decade later, Mithradates launched another attack on the Roman protectorate of Bithynia, but was repelled by general Lucullus. His career finally concluded in 63 BC when, defeated by Pompey the Great, he was besieged in Panticapaeum by his own rebellious son and forced to commit suicide. After failing to kill himself via poison (to which he had become immune by taking small doses over many years), Mithradates induced a loyal Gallic officer to slay him.

The imagery on the obverse deliberately evokes the memory of Alexander the Great, depicting himself as a semi-divine conqueror with flowing, windswept hair. This popular and desirable series represents the last great example of Hellenistic portraiture, with these particular fine style dies earning the star for exceptional eye appeal.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000



30026 PAPHLAGONIA. Sinope. Ca. late 5th century BC. AR drachm (19mm, 6.01 gm). NGC AU★ 4/5 - 4/5. Ca. 425-410 BC. Head of sea eagle left; tuna fish below / Two incuse square punches with smooth interior surfaces, one containing pellet, the other containing Γ•; all set diagonally to each other. HGC 7, 388. SNG Black Sea 1367-9. SNG von Aulock 6835. Deep cabinet toning on lustrous surfaces with areas of rainbow toning.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Daruma International Galleries (December 2005); LHS Numismatik AG, Auction 95 (25 October 2005), lot 643

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



Ex Niggeler and Strozzi Collections

30027 MYSIA. Lampsacus. Ca. 412 BC. EL stater (22mm, 15.19 gm). NGC Choice XF 5/5 - 3/5, light marks. Forepart of winged horse left, surrounded by grapevine; Ξ below / Quadripartite incuse square, two quadrants partially filled. Baldwin, *The Electrum Coinage of Lampsakos* p. 9 (this coin) and Pl. I, 12a-k. Babelon, *Traité* Pl. I, 8, 4. Jameson Coll. I, 1432. SNG von Aulock 1292 (All three identical dies). Strongly struck from fresh dies.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex UBS Gold & Numismatics, Auction 56 (28 January 2003), lot 126; Münzen & Medaillen AG Auction (3 December 1965), lot 563; Walter Niggeler Collection, Bank Leu; Strozzi Collection (Galerie Sangiorgi, Auction, 15-22 April 1907), lot 1582

All Lampsacus staters from the 5th century BC are of fine gold, except this series. There is an earlier issue of this series and is usually placed around the time of the Athenian Coinage Decree, ca. 450-440 BC, when all silver coinage of the Delian League was ordered recoinced into Athenian owls. This later issue, with the addition of the Ξ control mark, is dated circa 412 BC, based on hoard evidence, to coincide with the revolt of Lampsacus against Athens. The winged horse should be thought of in the same genre as the winged boars, canines, bears and felines seen on the archaic coinage of Asia Minor, and having an origin in eastern mythology, as opposed to being a representation of Pegasus.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



30028 IONIA. Magnesia ad Maeandrum. Ca. 350-325 BC. AR tetradrachm (26mm, 14.69 gm, 11h). NGC Choice XF 4/5 - 3/5. Rhodian standard. Pitthion, magistrate. Helmeted warrior, in military attire on horseback rearing right, couched spear in right hand / ΜΑΓΝ / ΠΙΤΘΙΩΝ, bull butting left; all within maeander pattern. cf. SNG von Aulock 2039 (didrachm). SNG Copenhagen -. BMC -. Extremely rare.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex UBS Gold & Numismatics, Auction 56 (28 January 2003), lot 130

Magnesia ad Maeandrum was founded on the banks of the Lecathus, a tributary of the Maeander river, in south-western Ionia circa the mid-700s BC by a tribe from Thessaly known as the Magnetes, plus colonists from Crete.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$4,000



30029 IONIA. Teos. Ca. 460-420 BC. AR stater (25mm, 11.63 gm). NGC Choice XF 5/5 - 3/5, scuffs. T-H-I-O-N (N retrograde), griffin seated right on egg and dart frieze, left foreleg raised, beak open; hound leaping right below paw / Quadripartite incuse square with stippled surfaces. Balcer 27. Deep cabinet toning with areas of fiery red and teal.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Hess Divo, private sale with old dealer tag; Sternberg, Auction 17 (August 1986), lot 149

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30030 CARIAN ISLANDS. Rhodes. Ca. 404-385 BC. AR tetradrachm (26mm, 15.15 gm, 1h). NGC AU 4/5 - 4/5. Head of Helios facing, turned slightly right, hair arrayed in radiating waves / ΡΟΔΙΟΝ, rose with single bud on tendril to either side; A in lower left field, all within deep incuse square. HGC 6, 1418. High relief dies and deep cabinet toning.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Ars Classica 5 (25 February 1992), lot 157.

The city of Rhodes on its eponymous island was a relatively late foundation, formed in 408 BC by the union of Ialussus, Camirus and Lindus. Its strategic position on an island between Europe and Asia Minor assured its prosperity and growing importance as a naval power. The citizens chose as their patron deity Helios, god of the sun, whose rays shone down with such alluring brilliance year-round on the island. This superb coin actually predates the construction of the city's most famous landmark, the Colossus of Rhodes, a towering stature of Helios that stood alongside the harbor.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



Attractive Croesus Light Stater

30031 LYDIAN KINGDOM. Croesus (561-546 BC). AV stater (18mm, 8.05 gm). NGC AU 5/5 - 4/5, light scuff. Sardes, 'light' standard, ca. 553-539 BC. Confronted foreparts of lion right and bull left, both with outstretched foreleg / Two incuse square punches of unequal size, side by side, with irregular interior surfaces. Carradice 8. BMFA 2073. SNG von Aulock 2875. Bright and lustrous with great eye appeal.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Ars Classica 23 (19 March 2002), lot 1274.

In numismatic circles, Croesus is most famous for introducing the world's first bimetallic standard, issuing coins of both gold and silver. Prior to this, coins were produced in electrum, a naturally occurring alloy of gold and silver. This situation obviously caused a number of problems, most notably because the proportions of gold to silver were inconsistent. In fact, there is strong evidence to suggest that Croesus' father, Alyattes, artificially manipulated the gold-to-silver ratio in his electrum coins in his favor; the natural occurring electrum in Asia Minor typically has a gold-to-silver ratio of 75%-25%, though his coins were struck with 54% gold and 44% silver.

The eminent scholar of early coinage, John Kroll, argues that the gold standard of Croesus was introduced in several stages, designed at recalling as many of the circulating electrum staters as possible. The early electrum staters of Asia Minor were typically struck on a weight standard of 14.15 grams. Considering the relative value of gold to silver at the time was 1:13, then one gold stater of the so-called "heavy" series of King Croesus, based on a weight standard of 10.8 grams, would have been equal to the gold and silver content of one electrum stater, which circulated at an assumed ratio of 75% gold and 25% silver. Kroll argues that the Lydian government used this heavy standard to recall the old electrum coins and reissue the new heavy standard gold coins at a 1:1 ratio.

Once a sufficient number had been recalled, the Lydian government issued the new light stater, which weighed approximately 8.05 grams. Kroll continues his argument that this new weight standard was designed to recall as many of the remaining electrum coins as possible, as the 8.05 gram standard is based on the actual gold and silver content of early electrum coins (54% gold and 44% silver). In other words, the heavy standard was used to replace electrum staters at their circulating face value and the light standard was used to recall coins at their actual gold and silver value.

The conventional wisdom has always been that the light staters of Croesus were much more common than his heavy staters by a factor of three or four. However, in recent years, studies of auction appearances of both types have strongly suggested otherwise. Though the light stater was almost certainly produced for a longer period than the heavy stater, the survival rate for the former may be significantly less than previously thought. As such, new information and studies about the surviving population of each type lead to the conclusion that the light stater is actually the rarer of the two types.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$20,000



Fine Style Daric

30032 ACHAEMENID PERSIA. Xerxes II-Artaxerxes II (5th-4th centuries BC). AV daric (17mm, 8.38 gm). NGC Choice AU 4/5 - 4/5, **Fine Style**. Lydo-Milesian standard. Sardes, ca. 420-375 BC. Persian king or hero, wearing cidaris and candys, quiver over shoulder, in kneeling-running stance right, drapery in long curve from left knee to right ankle, right knee obscured by drapery, transverse spear in right hand, bow forward in left / Irregular rectangular incuse punch. Carradice Type IIIb, Group C. Sunrise 28. Perfectly centered on oblong flan, struck from dies of superb style.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Leu Numismatic, Auction 86 (5 May 2003), lot 447

The Achaemenid Persian Empire was the first long-lasting multinational state and in many ways the prototype for the Hellenistic and Roman Empires that followed. After the conquest of the Lydian Kingdom circa 546 BC, the Achaemenids quickly adopted the Lydian concept of coinage and converted the recently invented gold stater into a new denomination, the daric, named after the Persian Great King Darius. Darics depict a stylized image of the Great King in a martial pose, which changed in design over the following centuries. On this issue we see him rendered in a particularly regal form, his long torso well-proportioned and elaborately draped, with a diagonal fold on his upper torso sharply defined and facial features displaying fierce determination.

Estimate: \$1,000-\$2,000



30033 LYCIA. Oenoanda. Ca. 2nd century BC. AR stater or didrachm (22mm, 7.79 gm, 12h). NGC Choice XF 5/5 - 3/5. Dated Year 3 (186/5 BC) Laureate head of Zeus right, scepter surmounted by lotus over shoulder, B (partially erased from die) behind / OINO-ANΔΕ/wN, eagle with closed wings standing right on winged thunderbolt, Γ (date) below tail, transverse sword behind shield in right field. BMC Lycia 1. Superbly struck on flashy surfaces with areas of orange toning.

From the Paramount Collection

Until about a two decades ago, the British Museum Oenoanda coin was the only known example to exist. The discovery in the early 2000s of a significant group of didrachms brought many more examples to market and added immensely to our understanding of the coinage, revealing that at least three distinct issues were originally struck, marked by a sequence of letters and symbols. The presence of the lotus-scepter over the shoulder of Zeus and the eagle-on-thunderbolt reverse motif both suggest a close affinity to the Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt.

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



30034 PAMPHYLIA. Aspendus. Ca. 325-250 BC. AR stater (24mm, 10.49 gm, 12h). NGC AU 5/5 - 3/5, **Fine Style, brushed**. Pair of nude wrestlers grappling; ΠΙΟ between / ΕΤΦΕΔΙΙΥC, slinger wearing short tunic advancing right, drawing sling taut overhead; forepart of horse above horizontal caduceus in right field, dotted border. Tekin series E. SNG France 3, 112. Magnificent rainbow toning.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



"Star" Ba'altars Stater

30035 CILICIA. Tarsus. Pharnabazus, as Satrap (380-374/3 BC). AR stater (24mm, 10.61 gm, 1h). NGC Choice AU★ 5/5 - 5/5, die shift. Ca. 380-379 BC. *B'LTRZ* (Aramaic), Ba'altars seated left on backless throne, grounded scepter surmounted by lotus in right hand / *FRNBZW-HLK* (Aramaic), bearded male head left, wearing crested Attic helmet. SNG Levante 71-72. Solidly struck on ample flan with gorgeous rainbow toning throughout.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



30037 SELEUCID KINGDOM. Antiochus VI Dionysus (144-142 BC). AR tetradrachm (32mm, 16.81 gm, 1h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 4/5. Antioch on the Orontes, Dated Seleucid Era Year 170 (143/2 BC). Radiate, diademed head of Antiochus VI right, one diadem end waving across border behind, the other falling forward over shoulder; bead-and-reel border / *ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ / ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ / ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΥ*, the Dioscuri on horseback left, both wearing pileus surmounted by star and holding couched spear; *OP* (date) below horses, *TPV* above *XAP* monogram above *ΣΤΑ* in right field, all within Dionysaic wreath of laurel, ivy leaves, grain ears and lotus blossoms. SC 2000.3d. Well struck from attractive style dies on bright flan with areas of golden toning.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



Mint State Fine Style Tarsus Stater

30036 CILICIA. Tarsus. Mazaeus, as Satrap (ca. 361-334 BC). AR stater (23mm, 10.83 gm, 9h). NGC MS 5/5 - 3/5, Fine Style. *B'LTRZ* (Aramaic), Ba'altars seated left on backless throne, head facing, eagle, grain ear and grapes in right hand, grounded scepter in left; *NS* (Aramaic) to lower left, *M* (Aramaic) below strut / *MZDY* (Aramaic), lion attacking bull left; ankh form monogram below bull. SNG Levante 106. Struck from meticulously detailed fine style dies on lustrous flan.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



30038 SELEUCID KINGDOM. Demetrius II Nicator, second reign (129-125 BC). AR tetradrachm (33mm, 16.71 gm, 1h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style, brushed. Antioch on the Orontes, 129-128 BC. Diademed head of Demetrius II right, wearing long beard, with tousled locks on crown of head and stubby horn at temple, diadem ends falling straight behind; bead and reel border / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ / ΘΕΟΥ / ΝΙΚΑ-ΤΟΡΟΣ, Zeus seated left on backless throne, grounded scepter in left hand, Nike in right hand extending wreath toward edge of coin; Ξ in left field, O below throne. SC 2166.2c.

From The Paramount Collection

After spending nearly a decade in Parthian captivity, Demetrius II was released in a move to sow discord within the ranks of the invading Seleucid army of his brother and successor, Antiochus VII. The ploy worked beautifully and Antiochus VII was killed in the ensuing military debacle, leaving Demetrius II as sole ruler for the second time. His decade among the Parthians had changed him visibly — he emerged with a long, flowing beard, much against Greek fashion of the day. His pro-Parthian policies made his countryman regard him as a “Manchurian candidate” out to destroy Seleucid power, leading to his quick downfall and execution. Despite his troubled regime, his coin portraits from the second reign are some of the best in the entire Seleucid series, as evidenced by this splendid tetradrachm.

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



Ex Lockett and Seltman Collections

30039 PHOENICIA. Tyre. Ca. 425-394 BC. AR shekel (25mm, 13.18 gm, 8h). NGC Choice XF 2/5 - 3/5. Uncertain king. Bearded deity (Melqart?), bow and arrow in left hand, reins in right, riding winged hippocamp right above waves; dolphin swimming right below, all in guilloche border / Owl standing right, head facing, flail and crook over shoulder; guilloche border. HGC 10, 315. Betlyon 17. Lockett 3226 (this coin). Deep cabinet toning with violet hues.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Hess-Divo 289 (24 October 20001), lot 31; Lockett Collection (Glendining, Part XII, 21 February 1961), lot 2675; Seltman Collection (Sotheby's, 7 July 1921), lot 327

Estimate: \$1,000-\$2,000



Ex de Guermentes Collection

30040 PTOLEMAIC EGYPT. Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285/4-246 BC), with Arsinoë II, Ptolemy I, and Berenice I. AV mnaieion or octadrachm (27mm, 27.78 gm, 12h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 3/5, marks. Alexandria, ca. 285-272 BC. ΑΔΕΛΦΩΝ, jugate right busts of Ptolemy II and Arsinoë II; Ptolemy is diademed and draped, Arsinoë is diademed and veiled, Galatian shield to left, dotted border / ΘΕΩΝ, jugate right busts of Ptolemy I and Berenice I; Ptolemy is diademed and draped, Berenice is diademed and veiled, dotted border. CPE 313. Svoronos 603. Sharply struck from fresh high relief dies on bright flan. Remarkable eye appeal.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex de Guermentes Collection (Leu Numismatik AG, Auction 86, 5 May 2003), lot 455; Monnaies et Médailles, Auction XI (23 January 1953), lot 90

The first mnaieions carried four royal portraits: Ptolemy II and his sister-wife on the obverse with the epithet adelphon ("sibling lovers"), backed with the portraits of his parents, Ptolemy I Soter and Berenice I, now identified as theon ("gods").

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



"Star" Fine Style Berenice II Silver Fifteen-Drachms

30041 PTOLEMAIC EGYPT. Berenice II (246-221 BC). AR pentekaidekadrachm (43mm, 52.94 gm, 12h). NGC (photo-certificate) Choice AU★ 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Ptolemaic standard. Alexandria, under Ptolemy III Euergetes, 245 BC. Diademed, veiled, draped bust of Berenice II right, wearing delicate necklace; dotted border / BEPENIKHΣ-BAΣΙΛΙΣΣΗΣ, cornucopia containing grain ear, pyramidal cake and pomegranates, grape cluster hanging from the rim of horn at left, bound with royal fillet with ends floating sinuously; between two laureate pilei of the Dioscuri, dotted border. CPE 734. Svoronos 988. An impressive example of this massive denomination, struck from dies of fine style, and possessing superior eye appeal.

From the Paramount Collection

Gold and silver coins were minted in the name of Berenice II on both the Ptolemaic and Attic standards. Svoronos, written in 1904, lists this coin as a dodekadrachm on the Attic standard, citing a single damaged specimen in Athens, weighing 46.68 gm, and its stylistic similarity to the known Attic weight series. More recently, with the discovery of a number of well-preserved examples, such as the present offering, this issue was likely minted as 15-drachms on the Ptolemaic standard of 3.55-3.60 gm and is the companion issue to the gold double mnaieion of Arsinoë II (CPE 733). Catherine Lorber (CPE, p. 394) proposes both of these impressive silver and gold issues "clearly were presentation pieces, distributed at the court on a special occasion, presumably a celebration of the king's return (of Ptolemy III during the Third Syrian War in 245 BC)."

One of the most formidable Ptolemaic queens, Berenice II's family background was unusually convoluted and bloody, even by Macedonian standards. Born in 267 BC, she was the daughter of the Cyrenaican king Magas and his wife Apama. In 249 BC, upon the death of Magas, her mother married her off to Demetrius the Fair, son of Demetrius Poliorcetes, who was invited to become king of Cyrenaica. Demetrius, however, was more interested in Apama than her daughter and, catching him in her mother's bed, Berenice stabbed him to death. Despite this, her legendary beauty prompted Ptolemy III of Egypt to marry her, in 244/3 BC, and the duo became the foremost "power couple" in the world. Berenice appears to have ruled Egypt quite capably during her husband's long campaigns of conquest. During one such campaign, she cut off her hair and dedicated it to Aphrodite for her husband's safe return. The hair mysteriously disappeared and was "discovered" in the heavens forming the constellation Coma Berenices. The tale entered legend as "The Lock of Berenice." She had six children, one of whom, Ptolemy IV, succeeded to the throne in 221 BC. Berenice originally ruled jointly with him but was soon murdered, probably at the instigation of her son.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



30042 PTOLEMAIC EGYPT. Ptolemy IV Philopater (222-205/4 BC). AR stater or tetradrachm (27mm, 13.74 gm, 12h). NGC Choice XF 5/5 - 2/5, Fine Style, edge marks. Alexandria, ca. 217-215/0 BC. Jugate draped busts right of Serapis, laureate with miniature atef crown above forehead, and Isis, crowned with grain and miniature horned disc above forehead; dotted border / ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ-ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ, eagle standing left on thunderbolt, head right, wings closed, double cornucopia bound with royal diadem over right shoulder; ΔΙ between legs. CPE 892. Svoronos 1124. Two very attractive portraits with medium cabinet toning.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatic Fine Arts 26 (14 August 1991), lot 121.

According to Lorber in CPE, p. 432, this issue can be understood as the financial basis for the rebuilding of the Lagid army between 219 and 217 BC, and was struck shortly after the Battle of Raphia in 217 BC, in which the Ptolemaic army decisively defeated the invading Seleucid forces of Antiochus III. The army supposedly offered prayers to Serapis and his consort Isis before the battle, which were answered with a victory.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



Mint State Arsinoe Octodrachm

30043 PTOLEMAIC EGYPT. Arsinoë II Philadelphus (277-270/268 BC). AV mnaieion or octodrachm (28mm, 27.60 gm, 12h). NGC MS 5/5 - 2/5, ex-jewelry. Posthumous issue of Alexandria, under Ptolemy VI-VIII, after 193/2 BC. Veiled head of deified Arsinoë II right, wearing diademed stephane and horn of Ammon, scepter surmounted by lotus over far shoulder; K in left field, dotted border / ΑΡΣΙΝΟΗΣ-ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ, double cornucopia bound with fillet, containing pyramidal cakes, pomegranates and other fruits, grape cluster hanging from the rim of each horn; dotted border. Svoronos 1498. SNG Copenhagen 321-2. Struck from high relief dies on bright and flashy flan.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Leu Numismatik AG, Auction 86 (5 May 2003), lot 462

It has been speculated that the later K-type mnaieions issued during the reigns of Ptolemy VI through VIII feature a disguised portrait of Cleopatra II, who was the sister and later wife of both brothers. If such is the case, the K behind the head could refer to Kleopatra (on the original issues of Ptolemy II-III, from which the later issues were copied, the K was one of several letters used to designate obverse dies). Certainly the portrait on these later issues bears little resemblance to the face of Arsinoë II found on the gold pieces minted closer to her lifetime. Whether or not these pieces do bear portraits of concurrent figures, it is a historical fact that the strongest of the later Ptolemaic rulers invariably were women, including the last of the line, Cleopatra VII.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



A Second Brilliant Arsinoe Octodrachm

30044 PTOLEMAIC EGYPT. Arsinoë II Philadelphus (277-270/268 BC). AV mnaieion or octodrachm (28mm, 27.79 gm, 12h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 3/5, brushed, edge cuts. Posthumous issue of Alexandria, under Ptolemy VI-VIII, after 193/2 BC. Veiled head of deified Arsinoë II right, wearing diademed stephane and horn of Ammon, scepter surmounted by lotus over far shoulder; K in left field, dotted border / ΑΡΣΙΝΟΗΣ-ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ, double cornucopia bound with fillet, containing pyramidal cakes, pomegranates and other fruits, grape cluster hanging from the rim of each horn; dotted border. Svoronos 1498. SNG Copenhagen 321-2. Boldly struck on shimmering flan with brilliant flow lines in the fields.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Genevensis 1 (27 November 20000), lot 128; Hess-Divo, private sale with old dealer tag

Estimate: \$10,000-\$20,000



30045 PTOLEMAIC EGYPT. Ptolemy VI Philometor (180-145 BC). AR stater or tetradrachm (27mm, 14.12 gm, 11h). NGC Choice AU★ 5/5 - 4/5, die shift. Paphos, Regnal Year 32 (150/49 BC). Diademed head of Ptolemy I right, aegis tied around neck; dotted border / ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ-ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ, eagle standing left on thunderbolt, wings closed; LAB (date) in left field, ΠΑ in right field, dotted border. Svoronos 1446. SNG Copenhagen 299. Struck from fresh high relief dies on bright flan. Magnificent eye appeal and unusually nice for the issue.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$1,000-\$2,000



30046 BACTRIAN KINGDOM. Eucratides I the Great (ca. 170-145 BC). AR tetradrachm (34mm, 17.01 gm, 11h). NGC MS 5/5 - 5/5. Draped and cuirassed bust of Eucratides I right, seen from front, wearing crested Bactrian helmet adorned with bull's horn and ear; bead-and-reel border / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ / ΕΥΚΡΑΤΙΔΟΥ, the Dioscuri on horses prancing right, both with couched spear in right hand, palm in left over shoulder; ΔΝΦ monogram in lower right field. HGC 12, 131. Bopearachchi 6F. Struck from fresh, high relief dies, on massive, lustrous flan, with scattered areas of red orange toning.

From the Paramount Collection

Estimate: \$1,000-\$2,000



Fine Style "Star" Dynastic Tetradrachm

30047 BACTRIAN KINGDOM. Eucratides I the Great (ca. 170-145 BC). AR tetradrachm (32mm, 16.99 gm, 12h). NGC AU★ 5/5 - 4/5, **Fine Style.** Dynastic pedigree issue. ΗΛΙΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ / ΚΑΙ ΛΑΟΔΙΚΗΣ, jugate draped busts of Heliocles and Laodice right, seen from front; ΦΛ monogram in left field, bead-and-reel border / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΜΕΓΑΣ / ΕΥΚΡΑΤΙΔΗΣ, diademed, draped bust of Eucratides I right, seen from front, wearing crested helmet adorned with bull's horn and ear; bead-and-reel border. HGC 12, 133. Bopearachchi 15A. SNG ANS 526-527. MIG Type 182a.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Leu Numismatik AG; Classical Numismatic Group, Auction XXX (11 June 1994), lot 227

Of the immense Greco-Bactrian kingdom's rulers, we have only a handful of written accounts totaling about 500 words, along with the intriguing and often puzzling glimpses provided by the coinage of the realm. From the latter we can deduce that Eucratides, who reigned for about 25 years starting around 171 BC, arose from obscure origins to become the most powerful of all Greco-Bactrian kings, displacing several other claimants over a span of about 10 years. On this remarkable "pedigree" tetradrachm he pairs a reverse portrait of himself with the epithet Megas ("The Great" — he was apparently the first Greek ruler of any realm to give the title to himself without waiting for posterity to bestow it), with the dual portraits of his his parents, named Heliocles and Laodice, on the obverse. Heliocles is shown as bare-headed — perhaps he was a powerful magistrate or general. Was Laodice the daughter of a previous Bactrian king, perhaps Euthydemus or Demetrius I? Or, as has also been suggested, a princess of the Seleucid ruling dynasty (the name Laodice being quite common among the women of this house)? Pending the discovery of some parchment or inscription that clarifies his lineage, we cannot but guess. However, this remarkable "pedigree" coinage of Eucratides makes it quite clear that he was proud of his parentage and that they could not have been mere "commoners," as expounded by some.

Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000



ROMAN REPUBLIC



30048 Anonymous. After 211 BC. AE aes grave as (36mm, 38.17 gm, 7h). NGC XF 5/5 - 3/5, smoothing. Bearded head of Janus; I (mark of value) above / Prow of galley right; I (mark of value) above, ROMA below. Crawford 56/2. Sydenham 143. Jade green and red patina over ochre flan.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Classical Numismatic Group 53 (15 March 2000), lot 1270; Pegasi Numismatics, private sale with old dealer tag

Estimate: \$500-\$700

ROMAN IMPERIAL



Diana Siciliensis Calico Plate Aureus

30049 Augustus (27 BC-AD 14). AV aureus (19mm, 7.82 gm, 3h). NGC Choice XF 5/5 - 3/5, marks. Lugdunum, ca. 15-13 BC. DIVI F AVGVSTVS, bare head of Augustus right; dotted border / IMP X, Diana Siciliensis standing facing, head right, grounded spear in right hand, bow in left; hound standing left at left, SICILI in exergue. RIC I 172 var. (SICIL in exergue). Calicó 218 (this coin). Solidly struck, with subdued luster. Beautiful orange toning on obverse.

From the Paramount Collection

This interesting type was minted to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the victory of Marcus Agrippa over Sextus Pompey in the sea Battle of Naulochos in Sicily, on 3 September 36 BC, through the assistance of Diana. This battle marked the end of the Pompeian resistance against the Second Triumvirate.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



30050 Nero (AD 54-68). AV aureus (20mm, 7.34 gm, 5h). NGC Choice VF 5/5 - 3/5, light scuffs. Rome, AD 64-66. NERO CAESAR-AVGVS TVS, laureate head of Nero right / IANVM CLVSIT PACE P R TERRA MARIQ PARTA, façade of the Temple of Janus with closed doors. RIC I 50 and 58. Calicó 409. Handsome portrait with overall excellent centering on bright flan. Flashes of luster between the legends.

From the Paramount Collection

The Temple of Janus was one of the oldest structures in the Roman Forum. According to tradition, the doors were kept open in wartime and closed during times of peace. The closing of the Temple doors was a rare event, even during the Pax Romana. In AD 66, having concluded a favorable peace treaty with Parthia in AD 63, Nero closed the doors with great fanfare and marked the occasion on his coinage.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



Unlisted Nero Temple of Janus Sestertius

30051 Nero (AD 54-68). AE sestertius (35mm, 27.63 gm, 6h). NGC XF 5/5 - 2/5, smoothing. Lugdunum, ca. AD 65. NERO•CLAVD•CAESAR•AVG•GER•P•M•TR•P•IMP•P•, laureate head of Nero right, globe at point of truncation / PACE P•R•TERRA•MARIQ•PARTA•IANVM•CLVSIT•, three-quarter view of temple of Janus with latticed window on left, front doors closed on right, garland draped across arched entrance; S-C across fields. RIC I -, cf. 438. RIC does not list the Temple of Janus type with obverse legend 30. Attractive red and deep green patina.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex UBS Gold & Numismatics, Auction 57 (15 September 2003), lot 364

Estimate: \$800-\$1,200



Stellar Fine Style Trajan Sestertius

30052 Trajan (AD 98-117). AE sestertius (33mm, 24.96 gm, 5h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style, die shift. Rome, AD 103-111. IMP CAES NERVAE TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS V P P, laureate bust of Trajan right, seen from behind, drapery on left shoulder / S•P•Q•R OPTIMO PRINCIPI, Fortuna standing facing, head left, cornucopia cradled in left hand, right hand guiding rudder resting on prow; S-C across fields. RIC II 500. Perfectly centered and struck from magnificent fine style dies, on orichalcum flan with incredible red and green patina.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex UBS Gold & Numismatics, Auction 55 (16 September 2002), lot 1922; Münzen & Medaillen AG, Auction 86 (3 June 1998), lot 159; Naville-Ars Classica, Auction 13 (1928), lot 1239
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30053 Trajan (AD 98-117). AE sestertius (34mm, 30.10 gm, 7h). AU, tooling. Rome, AD 114-117. IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P, laureate, draped bust of Trajan right, seen from side / SENATVS PO-PV-LVSQVE ROMANVS, Felicitas standing facing, head left, transverse caduceus in right hand, cornucopia cradled in left; S-C across fields. RIC II 672. Evidence of tooling, thus ineligible for encapsulation. Deep green patina on chestnut and umber surfaces.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Pegasi Numismatics, private sale with old dealer tag.

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



Gleaming Fine Style "Star" Hadrian on Horseback

30054 Hadrian (AD 117-138). AV aureus (21mm, 7.41 gm, 6h). NGC MS★ 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Rome, AD 128-129. HADRIANVS-AVGVS TVS P P, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust of Hadrian right, seen from behind / COS-III, Hadrian riding horse pacing right, raising right hand. RIC II 348e. RIC II.3 930. Calicó 1221a. A simply stunning coin in hand. Struck from fresh dies with the engraver's centering arc for the legend still visible on obverse. The flan bright, with cartwheel luster.

From the Paramount Collection

This bold portrait displays to good effect Hadrian's famous beard, which was a notable departure from the tradition of clean-shaven Roman rulers. Previous Roman emperors were sometimes depicted on their coins with a scruffy light growth along the jaw line; these instances likely represented a "mourning beard" worn after the death of someone in the Imperial family. Hadrian was the first emperor to sport a full, heavy beard, albeit carefully trimmed. Roman historians present two reasons for his facial hair: (1) to hide unsightly pockmarks on his cheeks resulting from a childhood illness, (2) to show his sympathy with Greek philosophers, traditionally shown as bearded. Whatever his reasons for growing it, Hadrian's beard kicked off a fashion trend for Roman emperors that lasted nearly two centuries, until Constantine the Great brought shaving back into favor.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



Fine Style Hadrian Hispania Travel Series

30055 Hadrian (AD 117-138). AE sestertius (32mm, 24.76 gm, 12h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 3/5, Fine Style, smoothing, light scratches. Rome, ca. AD 130-138. HADRIANVS-AVG COS III P P, laureate, draped bust of Hadrian right, seen from behind / HISPANI-A, Hispania reclining left, olive branch upward in right hand, leaning with left arm on rocks, rabbit crouching right at feet; S C in exergue. RIC II 851. RIC II.3 1664. Crisply struck from handsome, fine style dies. Deep green and red patina.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex UBS Gold & Numismatics, Auction 55 (16 September 2002), lot 1936; Leu Numismatik, Auction 72 (May 1998), lot 437

The reign of Publius Aelius Hadrianus did much to transform the Roman Empire from a supreme city imposing its will on subject peoples into a true commonwealth of nations. Hadrian was born in Rome in AD 76, the son of a distinguished Spanish senator and related through his mother to the future Emperor Trajan. As the protégé of the emperor, Hadrian seemed marked out for the succession, but he was not formally adopted until Trajan lay on his deathbed in August, AD 117. The transition proved rough, and four distinguished ex-consuls were summarily executed for plotting a coup. Relations with the Senate remained strained throughout the reign. Hadrian abandoned many of Trajan's over-ambitious conquests and engaged in a policy of peace abroad and reform at home. His building projects were many and long-lasting, including Hadrian's Wall in northern Britain and the Pantheon in Rome. Under his patronage, Roman art and sculpture reached its creative peak. He spent most of his 21-year reign traveling, visiting every province of the Roman Empire. There are two incredible travel series issues of coinage produced in all metals under Hadrian - one with just the name of the province, such as this sestertius, and the other also including *Adventvs Avg* in the legend.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30056 Marcus Aurelius (AD 161-180). AE sestertius (33mm, 23.93 gm, 11h). NGC AU 5/5 - 3/5. Rome, AD 163-164. M·AVREL·ANTONINVS·AVG ARMENIACVS P M, laureate, cuirassed bust of Marcus Aurelius right, seen from behind / TR P XVIII-IMP II COS III, Mars standing right, grounded spear in right hand, resting left hand on grounded shield; S-C across fields. RIC III 863. Deep green patina with chocolate highlights.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex UBS Gold & Numismatics, Auction 55 (16 September 2002), lot 1965; Leu Numismatik, Auction (October 1997), lot 402; Hess-Leu, Auction (April 1975), lot 378

Originally given the name Marcus Annii Verus, the future Marcus Aurelius was born in AD 121 into a patrician family of Spanish origin. A solemn and dutiful youth, Marcus Aurelius was noticed by the emperor Hadrian, who nicknamed him "Verissimus," or "most truthful one," an accurate reflection of his character. In AD 138, as Hadrian's terminal illness worsened, he formally adopted a solid, reliable senator, T. Aurelius Fulvius Boionius Antoninus, as his intended successor. Antoninus in turn adopted the 17-year-old Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus, the son of Aelius Caesar; it is widely assumed Hadrian induced Antoninus to make these adoptions and thus secure the succession for another generation. Some historians have even concluded that the 52-year-old Antoninus was intended merely as a "placeholder" until the young Marcus Aurelius could come of age. At any rate, Antoninus succeeded smoothly to the throne in July AD 138 and raised Marcus Aurelius to the rank of Caesar in AD 139. The young man took an increasingly important role in his adoptive father's government for the next 22 years. This sestertius records his 18th year with the Tribune power (AD 163-164) and shows him as a handsome man in his early 40s, with a head of loose curls and a fashionable "philosopher's beard." However, the reverse image of Mars prepared for war points to one shortcoming of his long apprenticeship in government; Antoninus failed to provide Marcus Aurelius with an army posting that would have gained him much-needed military experience. Although Antoninus's reign was almost entirely peaceful, the gathering storm clouds portended future troubles of a type for which Aurelius had no training.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,200



Commodus Addressing the Troops

30057 Commodus (AD 177-192). AV aureus (21mm, 7.22 gm, 1h). NGC AU★ 5/5 - 4/5. Rome, AD 184-185. M•COMM•ANT•AVG•P•BRIT•FEL, laureate, draped bust of Commodus right, seen from behind / P•M•TR P X•IM-P VII-COS IIII P•P, Commodus, in military dress, standing facing on platform, head left, scepter in left hand, right hand raised, addressing three soldiers standing right at left, each with scutum, aquila, and parazonium; FID•EXERC in exergue. RIC III 110b. Calicó 2250 (this coin). A simply stunning aureus, fully struck from carefully engraved dies, with bright, lustrous fields.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Numismatica Ars Classica, Auction 24 (5 December 2002), lot 118; Numismatica Ars Classica, Auction 11 (29 April 1998), lot 459; Gilbert Steinberg Collection (Numismatica Ars Classica and Spink-Taisei, Auction, 16 November 1994), lot 505

The sole reign of Commodus, AD 180-192, is often viewed as the tipping point where the Roman Empire's long decline began. Commodus has thus been featured in novels, plays, and feature films as a villain, most recently in the cinema epics "Fall of the Roman Empire" (1964) and "Gladiator" (2001). Son of the greatly revered "Philosopher Emperor" Marcus Aurelius (AD 161-180), Commodus was the first emperor born "in the purple," in AD 161. Marcus Aurelius made him co-Augustus in AD 177, and the two emperors embarked on a military campaign against the Germans in AD 178. Worn out by his exertions, Marcus Aurelius died on 17 March AD 180. Freed of his dutiful father's control, Commodus immediately cut a deal with the Germans and abandoned all further plans of military conquest. Returning to Rome, he plunged into sensual pursuits and left governing to a succession of favorites who plundered the public purse and aggrandized themselves. While Commodus continued and worsened the debasement of Roman silver coinage begun by his father, the gold coinage remained of high purity, weight and artistry. This beautiful aureus depicts him as a young man very much in the image of his father. The historians Dio and Herodian both describe him as exceptionally handsome, a picture borne out by his coin portraits and sculpture.

Commodus issued this series to rally his troops after the execution of Sextus Tigridius Perennius, the Praetorian Prefect who essentially ran the empire from AD 180-185, until it was revealed he had aspirations of ascending to the throne.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



Commodus with Fortuna Fine Style Medallion

30058 Commodus (AD 177-192). AE bimetallic medallion (40mm, 55.92 gm, 12h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Rome, 189 AD. M•COMMODVS•ANTONINVS•PIVS•FELIX•AVG•BRIT, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust of Commodus right, seen from behind / FORTVNAE•REDVCI / C•V•P•P, Commodus, veiled and togate, standing right, scroll in left hand, sacrificing from patera in right hand over lit altar in center before Fortuna Redux enthroned left, cornucopia cradled in left arm, right hand on rudder. Gnechi plate 79.4 (same dies). Szaivert 1136 (reverse die see plate 20, 54).

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Gorny & Mosch, Auction 121 (10 March 2003), lot 466; Classical Numismatic Group, Web Shop, inventory #734679

Although relatively rare today, the mint in Rome during the Antonine Era was producing on a regular basis stunning bimetallic works of art, to be gifted to foreign dignitaries and possibly as awards of merit. Commodus took full advantage of this impressive medium, displaying both incredible portraiture on the obverse and a host of themes on the reverse to promote himself, over time showcasing his full descent into megalomania.

Commodus was so convinced of his status of demigod that he insisted in AD 190 the Roman calendar be renamed with each month taking on a part of his full name and title - Lucius Aelius Aurelius Commodus Augustus Hercules Romanus Exsuperatorius Amazonius Invictus Felix Pius. After the fire which destroyed a large section of Rome shortly thereafter, Commodus had it rebuilt and rededicated the city as Colonia Lucia Annia Commodiana. The citizens were then to be called Commodiani, the Senate was renamed Senatus Commodianus Fortunatus and all of the legions were to replace their names with Commodiana.

Commodus' megalomania entered its terminal phase in AD 192. Divested of his powerful chamberlain Cleander, he gave full vent to his obsession with Hercules and pretensions to godhead. Certain issues minted in AD 191-192 depict Commodus in the guise of Hercules, wearing the skin of the Nemean lion, in honor "To the Roman Hercules." The famous marble portrait bust found in the underground chambers of Horti Lamiani, now on display in the Capitoline Museum in Rome, depicts him in the same guise, and he portrayed the demigod during a series of spectacles in the Colosseum, where he dispatched hundreds of animals in imitation of Hercules' Twelve Labors. While the populace seems to have enjoyed these antics, the Roman aristocracy was horrified and a conspiracy took root over the course of the year that culminated in the emperor's assassination on New Year's Eve, AD 192.

The C V P P exergue is abbreviated for Commodus's 5th consulate, dating this piece to AD 189 - two years before the end of his reign and the resulting civil war of AD 193 and the beginning of the Severan Era.

The outer ring on this specimen is colored with deep green and brown patina, with the central section displaying beautiful shades of yellow, red and green earth tones. Exceptionally attractive in hand, this coin is presently the finest of the eight total Commodus medallions certified by NGC.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Calico Plate Coin

30059 Julia Domna (AD 193-217). AV aureus (20mm, 7.12 gm, 12h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 4/5. Rome, AD 196-211. IVLIA-AVGVSIA, draped bust of Julia Domna right, seen from front, wearing helmet-like wig of plaits, large chignon at back of head / MA-TER-DEVM, Cybele enthroned left, branch outward in right hand, resting left elbow on drum; lion crouching left on either side of throne. RIC IV.1 (Septimius Severus) 565. Calicó 2629 (this coin). Brilliant and lustrous, exhibiting clear flow lines in the fields.

From the Paramount Collection

Julia Domna was of Syrian-Arab ancestry, as the daughter of the hereditary high priest of Elagabal at Emesa, a wealthy caravan city in the Syrian desert. Beautiful, cultured and highly educated, she was made even more of a "prize" by a horoscope that proclaimed she would marry a king. Septimius Severus probably encountered her family while serving as a general in Syria in the AD 180s; when he learned of the horoscope, he immediately wrote to her father and secured her hand in marriage. Upon Severus' ascension as Roman Emperor in AD 193, Julia was named Augusta and became his closest advisor and confidant. Her love of art, learning and philosophy manifested in a cultural Renaissance in Rome.

Estimate: \$7,000-\$10,000



30060 Maximinus I (AD 235-238). AE as (27mm, 13.32 gm, 6h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 2/5. Rome, AD 236-237. MAXIMINVS PIVS AVG GERM, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust of Maximinus right, seen from behind / SALVS AVGVSTI, Salus enthroned left, cornucopia cradled in left arm, feeding from patera in right hand serpent rising from altar at left; S C in exergue. RIC IV.II 87. Solidly struck and well centered on large flan. Red and green patina.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex The New York Sale V (16 January 2003), lot 353; Galerie des Monnaies of Geneva Ltd., New York Sale (25-26 June 1976), lot 821

Estimate: \$400-\$600



30061 Gordian III (AD 238-244). AV aureus (20mm, 4.97 gm, 12h). NGC MS 5/5 - 4/5. Rome, ca. AD 241-243. IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG, laureate, draped and cuirassed bust of Gordian III right, seen from behind / AETER-NITATI AVG, Sol, standing facing, nude but for chlamys over left shoulder, radiate head left, raising right hand, globe outward in left. RIC IV.III 97. Calicó 3186. Well struck from fresh dies on lustrous flan.

From the Paramount Collection

This attractive gold aureus illustrates the monetary crisis about to engulf the Roman Empire. Its weight of 4.97 grams is only 3/4 the weight of aurei issued during the Severan era, and points to the shortage of precious metals caused by a worsening spiral of inflation and debasement. Silver was also in short supply, which caused the venerable silver denarius to be driven out of circulation by its inflationary cousin, the antoninianus. Portraiture and overall workmanship were still of a high standard, however, and the youth and innocence of Gordian are quite evident in his obverse image.

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



Prooflike Decius Aureus

30062 Trajan Decius (AD 249-251). AV aureus (19mm, 4.68 gm, 6h). NGC MS 5/5 - 4/5, Fine Style. Rome. IMP C M Q TRAIANVS DECIVS AVG, laureate, cuirassed bust of Trajan Decius right, seen from behind / VICT-ORIA AVG, Victory advancing left, wreath upward in right hand, palm cradled in left. RIC IV.III -, cf. 29a (draped and cuirassed). Calicó 3300. Solidly struck on brilliant flan with flashy surfaces.

From the Paramount Collection

Born on the Danubian frontier, Gaius Messius Quintus Trajanus Decius came to the throne with a ready-made agenda for the restoration of Rome's fading glory. He tried several innovations on the financial front, including the introduction of a new coin denomination, the double-sestertius. Despite these measures, the gold coinage of Decius shows a sharp acceleration in the debasement witnessed over the previous two decades, which had seen the aureus drop from about 6.5 grams under Severus Alexander (AD 222-235) to about 4.5 grams under Philip I (AD 244-249). Aurei struck near the beginning of his reign average about the same as Philip's, but this plummets by more than a gram over the course of the next 18 months. Perhaps seeking to confiscate their estates and replenish the treasury, he cracked down harshly on those he believed were undermining the ancient traditions of Rome. Christianity was particularly singled out, and thousands of Christians were forced to either make sacrifice to Rome's gods or face torture, execution and seizure of assets. Renewed barbarian invasions late in AD 250 took his attention away from domestic affairs. Seeking a decisive battle, Decius pursued the fleeing Goths into the marshes of Abrittus and straight into an ambush. Decius and about half of his army perished in the debacle, the first time a Roman emperor had fallen to a foreign enemy. The Christians claimed it was God's revenge on an arch-persecutor. In any case, the catastrophe at Abrittus accelerated the Roman Empire's slide into anarchy.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



Unlisted Tacitus Gold Binio

30063 Tacitus (AD 275-276). AV binio or heavy aureus (22mm, 6.52 gm, 10h). NGC AU 5/5 - 3/5. Siscia. IMP C M CL TACITVS AVG, radiate, draped and cuirassed bust of Tacitus right, seen from front / ROMAE AETERNAE, Roma seated left on shield, Victory right on globe in right hand, grounded spear in left; S C in exergue. RIC VI -, cf. 205 (Cyzicus, aureus, scepter instead of spear). Calicó 4097a (Antioch). Perfectly struck and well centered on bright flan with underlying luster.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Classical Numismatic Group, Triton VI (14 January 2003), lot 1066

Analysis of recent hoard studies has resulted in reassigning all ROMAE AETERNAE reverses of this type to Siscia, from the previous classifications of Cyzicus and Antioch. RIC VI (174) and Cohen (111) list a radiate heavy aureus of Tacitus from Siscia of this reverse type, but lacking S C in the exergue and with scepter instead of spear.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



30064 Diocletian (AD 284-305). AV aureus (20mm, 5.23 gm, 7h). NGC Choice AU 5/5 - 4/5, scratches. Cyzicus, AD 287-290. DI-OCLE-TIANVS-AVGVS-TVS, laureate head of Diocletian right / COS-III, Diocletian, laureate, in military dress, right hand raised in salute, on horseback pacing right. RIC VI 287. Calicó 4445.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Roman Gold Coins from the Collection of a Perfectionist (Leu Numismatik AG, Auction 87, 6 May 2003), lot 98; purchased privately in 1971

Although he reached the Roman throne via the path of coup and civil war, Diocletian turned out to be a far-sighted statesman of rare ability. Achieving undisputed power in AD 285, he came in with a detailed blueprint for Roman revival. Recognizing the task of governing the Empire had grown too great for one man, he divided supreme power with three old military colleagues and devised a formula for renewing this "Tetrarchy" every 20 years. The arrangement worked surprisingly well and by AD 300 the ceaseless revolts and civil wars that had nearly destroyed the Roman Empire over the latter third century had stopped, allowing Roman economic life to slowly and painfully recover. His many reforms included a complete revamp of the Roman coinage system. This aureus, struck at the very outset of his reign, retains the style, fabric and weight (about 4.75 grams) fixed by Aurelian in AD 275, about 1/70th of a Roman pound. In AD 293, Diocletian increased the weight of the aureus to 1/60th of a pound (about 5.4 grams), and at the same time introduced an entirely new coin of good silver, the argenteus.

This issue was struck for Diocletian's third consulship, which he celebrated in Nicomedia.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



Medallion for Restoration of Urbis Veneris Temple; Ex Parthenico Hoard

30065 Maxentius (AD 307-312). AV quaternio or medallion of 4-aurei (33mm, 21.12 gm, 1h). NGC MS 5/5 - 2/5, Fine Style, smoothing. Rome, ca. AD 308. IMP C M VAL MAXENTIVS P F AVG, bare head of Maxentius left / CONSERVA-TO-R VRBIS SVAE, Roma seated left on shield decorated with she-wolf and twins in the grotto of the Luperical, Victory right on globe in right hand, grounded scepter in left; PR in exergue. Cohen -. Gneecchi -. RIC VI -, cf. 143-144 (aureus, this reverse type). Carson, A Treasure of Aurei and Multiples from the Mediterranean -, cf. 99 (aureus), 111 (binio, P*R exergual mark), 106-108 (this obverse die, different reverse types) = Carson, The Greatest Discovery of Roman Gold Pieces Since the Great Find of Arras, London Illustrated News, 14 November 1959, p. 650, fig. 1. Cf. Bastien Donativa, p. 71 note 6. Depyrot p. 153. Extremely rare - only two examples known. Exceptionally strong strike with crisp details throughout on satiny surfaces.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Triton I (2 December 1997), lot 1678; Athena Fund I (Sotheby's, 26 October 1993), lot 125; Numismatic Fine Arts, Auction XXVII (4-5 December 1991), lot 185; "Parthenico" Hoard, late 1950s.

This phenomenal medallion was issued as a commemorative during the restoration of the temple of Urbis Veneris, erected by Hadrian in AD 135. The temple was of innovative style, which received harsh criticism by Apollodorus, the architect of Damascus, for which he was summarily executed by the greatly offended emperor. Located on the Velia hill, the opposite façades face the Forum and the Colosseum, with the two cellae adjoined in opposite directions, containing the statues of Roma and Venus respectively. One of the temple's functions was to host the celebrations of Veneralia on 1 April and Natale di Roma on 21 April, and was one of the most important shrines in antiquity. It stood until a fire damaged the structure in AD 307, however, the statue of Roma amazingly escaped harm during the blaze. Maxentius immediately set out to restore the temple to full use, but kept in mind the original criticism of Apollodorus, rebuilding the cellae in the classical architectural style of the period with apsidal form and vaulted ceilings.

The reverse legend on this coin promotes Maxentius as the Restorer of the City, and parts of this incredible edifice remain standing today - incorporated by the Antiquarium Museo Del Foro Romano, formerly the convent of Santa Francesca Romana.

Estimate: \$100,000-\$200,000



Liberation of Aquileia; Ex Emona Hoard

30066 Magnentius (AD 350-353). AV medallion of 3-solidi (34mm, 13.46 gm, 11h). NGC MS★ 5/5 - 3/5, Fine Style, light graffito. Aquileia, ca. AD 351. D N MAGNEN-TIVS P F AVG, bare headed, draped and cuirassed bust of Magnentius right, seen from front / LIBERATOR•REI•PVBLICAE, Magnentius, nimbate and in military attire, cloak flying behind, on stallion stepping right, offering his right hand to raise turreted and draped figure of Republica bowing left, cloak billowing behind, cornucopia and end of cloak in left hand, the other end of her cloak in right; SMAQ in exergue. RIC VIII 128. Gneccchi -. P. Bastien, *Le monnayage de Magnence (350-353)* (2nd ed. 1983), 196, 339 and pl. SV, 339. A. Jelocnik, *Le trésor d'Emona*, RN 1967, 12 and pl. 36, 5. Superbly struck and perfectly centered on bright flan.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex Münzen & Medaillen, Auction 92 (22 November 2002), lot 329; Münzen & Medaillen, Auction 79 (28 February 1994), lot 617; Emona Hoard, 1956

Born around AD 303 to parents of barbarian stock, Flavius Magnus Magnentius showed enough talent and initiative to rise high in the Roman army during the reigns of Constantine the Great and his son, Constans I, emperor of the West. In the AD 340s, Constans appointed Magnentius as commander in his personal guard, the *Protectores*. Whatever his merits, gratitude does not seem to have been among them, for in AD 350 he began plotting the overthrow of his benefactor. At a birthday party for a government minister, Magnentius walked in wearing an emperor's purple cloak and was immediately hailed by all the soldiers present. Constans, who had made himself unpopular with the army, attempted to flee to his brother, Constantius II, emperor of the East, but was overtaken and executed. After putting down the usurper Nepotian (half-nephew of Constantine I) in Rome, Magnentius solidified his rule in the West and appointed his brother Decentius as Caesar to fight the Germans on the Rhine. He also attempted to enter into negotiations with Constantius, but the Eastern emperor would hear none of it and vowed to avenge his brother's murder. However, he was preoccupied fighting the Persians, and had to disengage before he could turn his army against the West, which took more than a year. Constantius finally struck in the summer of AD 351, but Magnentius defeated his initial thrust into Italy and quickly went on the offensive, seizing the strategic town of Siscia and forcing a major engagement in the Balkans. The clash at Mursa on 28 September AD 351 proved one of the costliest battles in Roman history, leaving the ground strewn with 55,000 dead. Magnentius fared much the worse and retreated back into Gaul. Constantius took his time in pursuit, invading Italy the following year and methodically tightening the noose around Magnentius, who was forced to take refuge in the city of Lugdunum. Rather than surrender, Magnentius fell on his sword in August AD 353. Decentius followed suit a few days later.

Magnentius posed as a champion of the common people, a role reflected in this gold multiple, where he is usually shown without a diadem or other trappings of royalty. The reverse legend also carries a populist message, celebrating the liberation of the state from the tyranny of the sons of the House of Constantine, and struck to celebrate his entry into Aquileia in late AD 350 or early AD 351.

Estimate: \$100,000-\$150,000

BYZANTINE



30067 Tiberius II Constantine (AD 578-582). AV solidus (21mm, 4.47 gm, 6h). NGC Choice AU 4/5 - 3/5, clipped, scratch. Constantinople, 5th officina, AD 579-582. d m Tib CONS-TANT PP AVG, cuirassed bust of Tiberius II facing, wearing crown with pendilia, globus cruciger in right hand, shield decorated with horseman motif in left / VICTORI-A AVGG E, cross potent with base set on four steps; CONOB below. Sear 422. Clipped at the mint to bring the flan into tolerance.

From the Paramount Collection. Ex UBS Gold & Numismatics, Auction 55 (16 September 2002), lot 2058

Estimate: \$400-\$600

SESSION ONE
THURSDAY, MARCH 25 • 4:00 PM CT

WORLD COINS

ALBANIA – GERMAN STATES

ALBANIA



30068 Zog I gold Prova 100 Franga Ari 1927-R MS62+ NGC, Rome mint, KM-Pr31, Fr-1, Pag-788. 32.25gm. By G. Romagnoli. Two stars below bust variety. Heavily laden with golden frost, the sharp strike complemented by an alluring display of glowing mint resplendence. Only fine wisps and hairlines preclude a finer designation, rendering this offering a compelling proposition for collectors of this challenging series.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 250)
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30069 Zog I gold 100 Franga Ari 1927-R MS62 NGC, Rome mint, KM11a.3, Fr-1. Two stars below bust variety. A charming example of this classically designed gold issue, the surfaces soft and velvety with little in the way of distracting marks.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 249)
Estimate: \$1,500-\$1,800



30070 Zog I gold Prova 100 Franga Ari 1927-R MS62 NGC, Rome mint, KM-Pr29, Fr-1, Pag-786. By G. Romagnoli. Variety without star below bust. An enticing gold Prova issue that displays heavy die polish lines below the portrait, perhaps as a result of smoothing over of the stars that were previously in place upon the die. Satiny, matte-like surfaces with moderate handling align with the assigned grade.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 248)
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000

Finest-Certified 100 Franga Ari Prova

30071 Zog I gold Prova 100 Franga Ari 1928-R MS66 NGC, Rome mint, KM-Pr37, Fr-9, Pag-789. 32.25gm. Mintage: 50. By G. Romagnoli. Bare Head, With Wreath variety. Far and away conditionally superior for this scarce, low-mintage Prova issue, and the only example certified above MS63 at NGC, with none meeting even that level at PCGS. Shimmering golden luster sweeps the fields upon rotation, washing over bold features and revealing not a single meaningful instance of handling to deter the eye. As a type, and considering the very low production figures, unlikely to be found finer than this. A true gem, and the ideal type coin.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 254)
Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



30072 Zog I gold Prova 100 Franga Ari 1928-R MS64 NGC, Rome mint, KM-Pr38, Fr-8, Pag-791. By G. Romagnoli. From a reported mintage of 50 pieces, this extremely rare 100 Franga Ari type offers perhaps the most beautiful rendition of the design within the Prova issues of 1928, with the lovely and striking laurel rim set in high relief against the depth of the fields. With a mintage so sparse, the present example must surely be near the apex of surviving quality, presenting near-gem surfaces essentially devoid of marks and permeated with soft, velveteen luster.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 255)

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



30073 Zog I gold Prova 100 Franga Ari 1928-R MS63+ NGC, Rome mint, KM-Pr36, Fr-7, Pag-790. Mintage: 50. By G. Romagnoli. Bare Head, Without Wreath variety. An admirable selection of this fleeting Prova issue, displaying a potent combination of sharp striking detail and a uniform lustrous brilliance that enlivens the features at every turn. Only minute wisps limit the assigned grade from further heights, with a mere two others seen by NGC certifying more highly.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 253)

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



30074 Zog I gold Prova 100 Franga Ari 1928-R MS62 NGC, Rome mint, KM-Pr36, Fr-7, Pag-790. Mintage: 50. By G. Romagnoli. Bare Head, Without Wreath variety. Displaying scintillating luster throughout surfaces that have escaped any signs of circulation, only faint handling hairlines limiting the assigned grade. Well-struck, and a popular issue for its indisputable rarity, with only a small handful seen by NGC at this level of certification to date.

Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000

30075 Zog I gold Prova 100 Franga Ari 1929-R MS63 NGC, Rome mint, KM-Pr39, Fr-10, Pag-792. Mintage: 50. By G. Romagnoli. A very scarce type that displays the word "Prova" to the left of the date on the reverse. One of only 8 specimens presently graded by NGC, with only two of those certified finer than this choice example, which combines undeniable rarity with an appealing strike and rolling golden luster.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 256)

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



30076 Zog I gold "Independence Anniversary" 100 Franga Ari 1937-R MS62 NGC, Rome mint, KM21, Fr-11. Mintage: 500. Struck for the 25th anniversary of Albanian independence. Lustrous throughout, with only minute wisps existing to limit the assigned grade.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 257)
Estimate: \$2,500-\$3,500



30077 Zog I gold Prova "Royal Wedding" 100 Franga Ari 1938-R MS63+ NGC, Rome mint, KM-Pr55, Fr-13, Pag-794. 32.24gm. Struck to commemorate the wedding of Zog to Countess Geraldine Apponyi on April 28, 1938, with "PROVA" written above the wedding date on the reverse. Highly lustrous and scarce in this choice "plus" designation, with light touches of copper tone noted throughout.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 260)
Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



30078 Zog I gold “Royal Wedding” 100 Franga Ari 1938-R MS62 NGC, Rome mint, KM23, Fr-13. Struck for the marriage of King Zog to Countess Geraldine Apponyi on April 27, 1938, and produced to a total mintage of only 500 examples. Marked by a dazzling sun-gold luster that sweeps the fields upon rotation, coupled with a formidable strike that leaves a full expression of detail throughout.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 259)

Estimate: \$2,500-\$3,500

ARGENTINA



Barely Circulated La Rioja 8 Escudos

30079 La Rioja. Provincial gold 8 Escudos 1842-R AU55 NGC, La Rioja mint, KM14 (Rare), Fr-10, Onza-1575 (few examples known), Janson-51. Exceedingly scarce in this conditional state, the 1842 La Rioja 8 Escudos is described as “rare” in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, with Onza similarly noting that only a few examples are known. The present offering, immensely well-preserved for this elusive issue, displays an appeal that easily exceeds the expected appearance of the vast majority of gold coins of the age. Toned to a lovely honeyed amber, the surfaces possess a marvelous multi-hued iridescence that conveys a sense of originality which only heightens the appeal of its indisputable rarity. Underneath, aurous luster cascades over the surfaces upon rotation, confirming that this specimen is indeed on the cusp of Mint State, this observation further bolstered by an expression of detail that extends admirably to all but the highest points, where a small degree of rub is traceable throughout. As the self-styled “Restorer of the Laws,” Juan Manuel de Rosas played an important role in the historical events of Argentina, and we can think of no more fitting homage to this age-gone-by than this laudable 8 Escudos.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



AUSTRALIA



30080 South Australia. British Colony - Victoria gold "Adelaide" Pound 1852 MS61 NGC, KM2, Fr-3, Rennik-pg. 21, McDonald-pg. 41. Type II reverse with dentilated/crenellated inner border. A rare and highly sought-after type issued by the Government Assay Office in Adelaide, a town of clear importance owing largely to its close proximity to nearby gold fields. Though the initial mintage of such pieces numbered around 25,000, a substantial quantity were melted down, as their gold value surpassed their face value, and relatively few survivors remain today. Mint State examples are even harder to come by, and this brilliant specimen indisputably falls within that tier. Toned to a pleasing reddish-gold, the surfaces exhibit only gentle and evenly scattered friction, with lightness of detail at the uppermost regions of the raised designs attributable to a strike by dies in a later stage, as opposed to any actual wear. Lustrous and visually compelling, this Mint State offering deserves only the closest collector consideration.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Fantastically Rare Sydney 5 Pounds - One of Two in Private Hands

30081 Victoria gold Proof 5 Pounds 1887-S PR64 Cameo NGC, Sydney mint, KM11 (Rare; this coin cited), Fr-17 (Rare), S-3864A (Extremely Rare), McDonald-300 (3 Known), Rennik-pg. 37. 39.9gm. Reeded edge. Rarely is the acquisition of a coin a truly once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, though with the presentation of this ultra-rarity—the 1887 Sydney 5 Pounds—that may very well be the case. Previously offered in David Akers' sale of the John Jay Pittman Collection of World Coins in August of 1999, this very example was postulated to be one of only two held in private hands—an observation which still appears true, as no other examples have come to market since.

According to Jim Noble, cited by Akers in the 1999 sale, the other specimen in private hands stems from the Murdoch (1903) and Whetmore (1943) collections, later auctioned in 1979 and subsequently again as part of the Sharps Pixley Collection (Auction 30, November 1989, Lot 1312), where it realized an impressive 81,000 AUD at the time. The present coin is the Dangar specimen, sold by Spink to John Jay Pittman for a mere \$700 in 1953, and residing in his collection for over four decades thereafter until it was last sold by Akers in the late 1990s for \$103,500.

The offering may easily be considered a miracle of survival and displays surfaces essentially void of any contact marks or handling. Both sides are fully struck, with lightly frosted motifs, and sharp, clear rims that border the central features. The depthless mirrors are exceptional, aided in beauty by subtle copper-gold color, further confirming the Proof designation with total certainty. An admirable emission that would just as easily be demanded in this quality, even if it were a mere "regular" 1887 British Proof 5 Pounds. However, the "S" on the ground below St. George, sharply expressed and quite visible without magnification, confirms that this example was produced as part of a minuscule handful at the Sydney mint.

Thus, this was, is, and will continue to remain one of the absolute greatest rarities of the entire Australian series—a tribute to Victoria, the British Empire, and a unique relic of both British and Australian history. Its importance cannot be overstated, and it goes without saying that only one person will become the proud owner, adding to a lineage that will with all likelihood continue to be traced, at the owner's desire, to the end of collecting itself.

Ex. John Jay Pittman Collection (David Akers August 1999, Lot 4936); Dangar Collection (Spink, 1953)

Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



AUSTRIA

BATTHYANI



Sharp and Fully Brilliant Batthyani 10 Ducat

30082 Batthyani. Karl gold 10 Ducat 1764 UNC Details (Obverse Spot Removed) NGC, Vienna mint, KM5 (Rare), Fr-550 (listed under Hungary), Horsky-Unl., Holzmaier-6. 34.81gm. Decorated in endlessly flashy brilliance and produced to an exacting standard that renders every minute detail with pinpoint accuracy, this admirable type representative has been shielded from exchange or heavy-handed treatment for over 250 years to yield a designation that is so coveted for large gold issues of the period—namely that of fully uncirculated condition. Only a single smaller spot removal in the obverse upper right field serves as an admittedly minor distraction to what is otherwise a striking presentation, the whole of the surfaces veiled in warm golden tone that only intensifies to the reverse, where a dual display of intricacy and lustrous opulence culminates in a sensational display that is the envy of nearly all surviving gold emissions of the 18th century. We have never before encountered an example of this ornately designed and imposing issue, nor can we reasonably expect to see another for the foreseeable future due to its unmistakable rarity.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$25,000

DIETRICHSTEIN



The First Gold Multiple of Dietrichstein - Perhaps Unique in Private Hands

30083 Dietrichstein. Sigismund Ludwig gold 5 Ducat 1638 UNC Details (Repaired) NGC, Graz or St. Veit mint, KM2 (Rare), Fr-538 (Rare), Donebauer-Unl., Horsky-Unl., von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., Antoine-Feill Collection-Unl., Reichel Collection-Unl., Trau Collection-Unl., Holzmair-Unl., Polivka-Unl. 17.34gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM6). A show-stopping issue within this already challenging series, and a type that may very well be unique in private hands—the consignor knowing of just one other specimen—ranking as the first gold multiple, as well as the first gold emission of Dietrichstein in general. Sigismund Ludwig had just received confirmation to mint coinage in his own name from Emperor Ferdinand III in 1637, which likely accounts for the “FIII” on the reverse. It is, however, supposed from his Talers that he had been striking coins for some years prior. Despite the repaired designation on the holder, perhaps in reference to light hairlines over the fields or else some work done on the edge, the overall presentation is excellent—the devices carefully measured and formed in full baroque style, while handling has been kept to a minimum. Entirely missing from the Donebauer, Horsky, von Schluthess-Rechberg, Antoine-Feill, Reichel, and Trau collections, with neither the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* nor Friedberg providing any illustration for this date. It follows, then, that this may be a singular opportunity for collectors to obtain an example of this rare, and absolutely enticing multiple ducat.

Ex. Gorny & Mosch Auction 120 (October 2002, Lot 6031)

Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000



OLMÜTZ



Olmütz Medallion 5 Ducat

30084 Olmütz. Karl II gold 5 Ducat 1678 UNC Details (Obverse Rim Filed) NGC, Kremsier mint, KM303, Fr-76 (under Bohemia), cf. Lichnowsky/Mayer-235 (weight), Suchomel-Videman-433. 17.26gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM294). Likely one of the most instantly recognizable emissions of Olmütz, beloved for its intricate medallion rendering and trademark portrait of Karl II. The noted rim filing observed between 12 and 1 o'clock is of minimal visual impact, while the strike exhibits an admirable centering, surrounded by die polish that lightly textures the fields. At present, a mere two examples of this date have been awarded full Mint State designations from NGC, which ultimately adds to the significance of this specimen. For reference, an AU58 representative of this type sold in our January 2020 NYINC sale for \$43,200.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 58 (January 2004, Lot 3030)

Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000



Highly Detailed 5 Ducat of Karl III Josef

30085 Olmütz. Karl III Josef gold 5 Ducat 1707 UNC Details (Plugged) NGC, Kremsier mint, KM380, Fr-86 (under Bohemia), cf. Lichnowsky/Mayer-364 (weight), Suchomel/Videman-604. 17.11gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM378). A coin that exudes a perceptibly high quality for the type. The massive flan is beautifully garnished with a blushing red-gold patina along the peripheries, while detail throughout retains highpoint clarity. In our research, we were only able to locate two other examples sold at auction, and both of those showed light to excessive evidence of circulation. This coin preserves a full mint bloom that washes over the surfaces at each turn, with the protected regions of the design containing a considerable texturing of fine flow lines. The noted plug appears to be an expertly done mount removal around 12 o'clock, leaving only minute traces of re-engraving along the ball of the crown and the very peak of Karl's hair, which for all intents and purposes requires magnification to identify. Certainly, a representative that must be viewed in hand to be fully appreciated and likely the nicest to come to market in decades. Sold with an old Hess-Divo envelope.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



ORTENBURG



Finest Certified Ortenburg 10 Ducat - The Krause and Friedberg Plate Coin

30086 Ortenburg. Christopher Widmann gold 10 Ducat 1656 MS63 NGC, St. Veit mint, KM5 (Rare; this coin), Fr-563 (Rare; this coin plated in the 8th ed.), cf. Montenuovo-2945 (5 Ducat), Trau Collection-Unl., Holzmair-99. 34.67gm. Hans Seel as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM3). A piece which instantly stuns on account of its brilliant mint luster that effortlessly cascades over the fields, the surfaces preserving choice originality, while the edges remain free of filing or a previous mount. Unsurprisingly, this is the single finest certified example to date, with just one other specimen graded AU58 at PCGS. It almost goes without saying that this offering needs to be viewed in hand to be fully appreciated, a fact clearly supported by its use as the plate coin in both the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and Friedberg. For comparison, the last specimen to come to auction hammered for 46,000 Euros in February 2015.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 80 (May 2001, Lot 797)

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000

PAAR



An Exquisite Austrian Rarity

30087 Paar. Prince Wenzel gold 5 Ducat 1794 MS60 NGC, Vienna mint, KM8 (Rare), Fr-569 (Rare), Horsky-Unl. 13.97gm. By Johan Nepomuk Würth. Struck from 1/2 Taler dies (cf. KM5). An extremely rare gold emission produced in a design identical to the 1/2 Talers of the same date, with both the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and Friedberg denoting the scarcity of the type, only further supported by a lack of verifiable auction records. Standing as the sole certified example of its issue, this offering reveals evenly dispersed signs of handling in the form of fine wispy hairlines, with all details fully struck and the fields bathed in golden luminosity that cascades smoothly across the fields, particularly to the reverse, where an element of reflectivity makes its presence known. For accuracy, a single light scratch is noted to the right obverse field. Our research indicates that no other examples have sold in the last 20 years or more, and with its formidable combination of immense rarity, ornate detail, and covetable Mint State preservation, the sale of this very coin will serve as a guide to future collectors as to the otherwise nearly impossible valuation of this highly elusive and covetable type.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



SALZBURG



Likely the First Appearance of this Inaugural Date 8 Ducat in 25 Years

30088 Salzburg, Michael von Küenburg gold 8 Ducat 1554 AU Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, Fr-607 (Very Rare; this coin), Probszt-404, Numitor Collection-Unl., Zöttl-441. 28.05gm. The largest denomination minted during Michael von Küenburg's tenure as Prince-Archbishop, and a design that will instantly be familiar to collectors of the series from his contemporary Guldiner (though no Guldiner dated 1554 is known). From a production run of a mere 2 dates, this inaugural year and 1559, we are not aware of another example having come to auction in the last 25 years, as this specific date was missing from Künker's 2015 sale of the Numitor Collection, while Zöttl's plate coin for the 8 Ducat is an example dated 1559. Despite light cleaning from long ago, and what appears to be a small "8" above St. Rupert's left shoulder, this specimen presents an indisputably bold strike, virtually no evidence of weakness to the designs, and traces of die polish lines are still discernable amongst the protected regions. While it is difficult to speculate on the potential value of such a coin, especially one that has appeared so infrequently at auction, we would note that Friedberg cites this piece as previously bringing 34,000 CHF in a 1996 Zurich sale (likely Hess-Divo's October Auction 268), and as demand has not diminished for these illustrious multiple ducats, we expect plenty of interest from collectors as such.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Commendable 6 Ducat of Johann Jakob Khuen von Belasi

30089 Salzburg, Johann Jakob Khuen von Belasi gold 6 Ducat 1565 MS62 NGC, Fr-623, Probszt-450, Numitor Collection-Unl., Zötl-512. 20.77gm. An incredible representative of this scarce type, and a fitting selection for this Prince-Archbishop, who was known to have taken an acute interest in the coins of Salzburg. This particular issue perfected the confronted Saints design first introduced under Ernst von Bayern to such an extent that it was adopted, virtually unchanged, on the coinage of the city's next two Archbishoprics. And it is hardly a challenge to see why: whereas Ernst von Bayern's 2 Ducat coinage featured a much more crude and caricatured depiction of Saints Rupert and Virgilius, here their proportions are corrected and imbued with a much more lifelike quality, highlighted all the more so by the offers absolutely enviable presentation. Luster is visible over every inch of the surfaces, a quick turn of the hand confirming a well-preserved flan that was saved from any serious handling, along with a strike over both sides that is awe-inspiring. Although unrecognized by Friedberg in the same rarity tier as the 10, 12, or 20 Ducats of the same design, we have not been able to locate another example of this 6 Ducat at auction in the past several decades; while the Numitor Collection did contain a 12 Ducat piece, a 6 Ducat was notably missing from its holdings. A highly enticing piece that will easily garner the attention of collectors who have long awaited the opportunity to procure not just an example of the type, but a veritable Mint State specimen at that.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



Practically Choice "Tower" 10 Ducat Geschenkmünze

30090 Salzburg, Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau gold 10 Ducat 1593 MS62 NGC, Fr-677, Probszt-727, Numitor Collection-Unl., Zöttl-831. 34.45gm. A treasured gold type within the Salzburg series, and in a state of preservation that would be incredibly hard to surpass, this being the only Mint State example certified by either grading service. Due to its impressive size and the softness of the metal, multiple ducats such as this are frequently encountered with prominent dings or contact marks, and in many cases graffiti, as is seen on both the Zöttl plate coin as well as the 8 Ducat striking in the Numitor Collection. Perhaps this comes from the probable purpose of the issue itself. It has been postulated that these "tower" coins were given as gifts to the soldiers that Wolf Dietrich contributed to Emperor Rudolf II in his war against the Turks, for which the tempest-beset tower surmounted by a cross may have been an allegory. Additionally, it has been proposed that the tower was a symbol of the Catholic Church withstanding the threats posed by the Reformation. In either case, locating such a near-choice survivor is a considerable feat. For reference, we note that the Millennia example, certified at just AU58, reportedly brought \$25,000 in 2008.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Presumably Unique Salzburg "Tower" 25 Ducat

30091 Salzburg. Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau gold 25 Ducat 1594 UNC Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, Fr-666 (Unique), BR-Unl., Probszt-Unl., Numitor Collection-Unl., Zöttl-820. 87.35gm. An absolutely stunning coin, due in part to its considerable size, but even more so for its artistic beauty. This issue is among the most coveted series in all of Austrian coinage, and though these “tower” gold multiples of Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau have often been reported as soldiers’ pay, a piece of this weight could hardly have met that purpose pragmatically—its purchasing power alone far exceeding what was likely typical for even a top-ranking officer. The second-largest denomination confirmed from the Prince-Archbishop’s reign by Zöttl (who also notes the existence of a 30 Ducat), this weight was entirely unrecorded by either Bernhart and Roll or Probszt, and was also missing from both Leo Hamburger’s September 1921 *Notable Collection of Salzburg Coins and Medals* as well as Künker’s September 2015 sale of the Numitor Collection (both of which only contained a 10 Ducat of this date). Appreciably medalllic from all angles, both the fields and margins contain flashy, original luster. Graffiti in the form of the number 25 (Z5) is viewed across the obverse field, but is likely a contemporaneous inscription of the coin’s impressive denomination. By all accounts a unique piece, and one set to shatter auction records for Salzburg gold multiples.

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



Finest Certified Paris von Lodron 10 Ducat

30092 Salzburg. Paris von Lodron gold 10 Ducat 1628 MS62+ NGC, KM132, Fr-729, Probszt-1045, Numitor Collection-Unl., Zötl-1249. 34.80gm. Struck upon the dedication of the Salzburg Cathedral by Archbishop Paris von Lodron on 25 September 1628. A type that is perhaps more well-known within the Salzburg series than some of the even rarer selections from this collection, this remarkable survivor has attained a level of technical quality and visual allure that so few coins can achieve. Essentially choice, the specimen is devoid of any of the usual issues that plague these large gold multiples—its surfaces free of graffiti and lacking any bending to the flan. It does, however, present a stunning harvest-gold sheen that permeates both sides, and designs that are sharply defined, with strong legends that frame the illustrations beautifully. Of further interest to the scholar, the floriate cross at the beginning of the reverse legend appears to be recut from another design, which does not seem to be the angel's head known as an alternative initial mark. Unsurprisingly, this offering is unmatched at the certified level and will likely remain as such. For reference, we have sold just one other representative of this denomination, an AU58, which brought \$43,200 in our January 2020 NYINC auction.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



Prooflike "Star" 8 Ducat of Salzburg

30093 Salzburg. Maximilian Gandolph gold 8 Ducat 1668 MS63★ Prooflike NGC, KM202, Fr-800, Probst-1595, Zöttl-1910. 27.80gm. In a word, stunning. That a coin produced centuries ago could survive to the present and retain the aesthetic marvelousness displayed here is an amazing feat. This emission more than earns its "star" for exceptional visual quality, and though we will attempt to summarize just how beautiful the coin is in hand, it seems impossible to fully justify how impressive it truly is. For one, and perhaps foremost, the strike is exemplary. Needle-sharp detailing defines the visual motifs, rendered to such precision that not even a hint of weakness is noted throughout the designs. Within the contours of the devices, including the obverse facing saints, a speckling of golden frost endows their figures and the church underneath with an opulent texturing. While enhancing their presentation on its own, this feature produces a sublime contrast against the fields below, which reveal an intense gold-foil luster that bows toward the raised areas, shimmering distinctively in direct light to create a dazzling backdrop for the immersive central features. Even minor distracting marks can occasionally accompany a choice certification, yet no such signs are evident across the entirety of the surfaces, which yield a palpable visual grandeur that would be exceedingly difficult to surpass in any survivor of the series. An ideal type coin, and an offering that is sure to appeal to any collector seeking only the absolute finest quality.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



Brilliant Johann Ernst 6 Ducat

30094 Salzburg, Johann Ernst gold 6 Ducat 1687 MS61 NGC, KM260, Fr-826, Probszt-1750, Numitor Collection-Unl., Zöttl-2103. 20.84gm. Struck as a donative for Johann Ernst's election as Prince-Archbishop, this veritable Mint State 6 Ducat is presently among only three examples of this date to have been certified. Closer inspection reveals glistening surfaces brightened by remnants of mint bloom, along with fields that are pleasantly free of graffiti or instances of heavy handling. For the sake of accuracy, grade-aligning chatter over both sides is present, though it does little to impact the overall alluring nature of this specimen. The raised features remain strong and unobscured, while faint die polish remains detectable in the protected regions of the designs, and most particularly in the margins. A type which seldom becomes available, the last example that we have been able to locate brought 20,000 Euros in a European auction in September 2017.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 4082)

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



Uncirculated 12 Ducat Struck on a Broad Planchet

30095 Salzburg. Johann Ernst gold 12 Ducat 1687 UNC Details (Rim Damage) NGC, KM264 (Rare), Fr-822, Probszt-1746, Numitor Collection-Unl., Zöttl-2094. 41.81gm. Struck in an impressive weight of 12 ducats, this significant rarity warrants in-hand review, so as to fully appreciate its sharp detail and beautifully intricate designs. The multiple ducats of 1687 saw production in a varied range of weights and sizes. The Type 1 issues, as classified by Zöttl, are the broadest of these, and the current offering is represented in that category. The expansive flan serves as a remarkable canvas for the detailed designs, which remain undiminished in clarity and character by either time or handling.

Featuring the facing Saints Rupert and Vigilius to the obverse, this type was produced under the authority of Johann Ernst von Thun und Hohenstein, Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg from 1687. The specimen demonstrates a conditional preservation that is nothing less than fully uncirculated, with sharp and scintillating mint luster expressed throughout the fields upon rotation. Only a single edge knock near 10 o'clock is visible in the current holder placement, with a single mark crossing from about 4 o'clock to the center of the flan. Across the entire series, this specimen represents one of the very largest that we have seen in terms of denomination and weight. This further points to the extreme difficulty of locating other, similarly heavy, gold emissions of the period. Owing to both its laudable quality and exceptional presentation, we have no doubt that the offering will be met with fervent collector enthusiasm.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



An Eye-Catching Donative for Franz Anton's Election as Archbishop

30096 Salzburg. Franz Anton gold 10 Ducat 1709 MS62+ NGC, KM302 (Rare; this coin), Fr-840 (Rare), Probszt-1946, Numitor Collection-Unl., Zöttl-2335. 34.75gm. The only certified representative of this elusive denomination, and a coin which seems to earn its nearly choice designation on the grounds of its glassy luster alone. Stated by Probszt to have been a “gift piece” (Geschenkstück) for Franz Anton’s election as Archbishop, it is undoubtedly clear to see why this medium was chosen to produce treasured talismans for the event—the strike, crisp and carefully prepared, leaves nothing to the imagination; the heavenly figures of Saints Rupert and Virgilius (Franz Anton’s forefathers in nurturing the Austrian flock) are expressed in the most loving detail, with faint die polish lines along their silhouettes heightening their otherworldly aura. Perhaps one of the few “un-original” features on this selection is the presence of red wax on the obverse (reverse as holdered), likely suggesting its plating as part of an old collection. Although we cannot speculate on how many pieces survived, we have not been able to find any other specimens in auction records.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



Charming 18th-Century 5 Ducat

30097 Salzburg. Sigismund III gold 5 Ducat 1759-FMK AU55 NGC, KM396, Fr-868, Probszt-2232, Numitor Collection-Unl., Zötl-2892. 17.37gm. By Franz Xaver Matzenkopf. A popular entry in the series, though one that does not occur with any great regularity at auction—a survey of sales records reveals only a handful having been offered in the last 20 years. At first glance, the originality and eye appeal of this offering are instantly pleasing. With closer inspection, the viewer is drawn in further by an appreciable amount of watery luster that resides within the legends and along the edge denticles, proceeding in a brilliant ring until it fully silhouettes the central elements. Light contact and very mild high-point friction exist in-line with the designation, as does a slight softness to the strike as one approaches the highest reliefs of the design. Currently the only example to have been certified, all but ensuring increased bidder attention for this rarity that will undoubtedly elevate the status of its next collection.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



IMPERIAL



30098 Maximilian I (1493-1519) 4 Guldiner 1509-Dated (1517) AU55 NGC, Antwerp mint, Dav-LS279, cf. Julius-8 (for 2 Guldiner), Schulden-4458, Voglhuber-Unl., cf. Moser-Tursky-pg. 41, Fig. 82 (for gold striking). 116.95gm. Later striking from dies by Ulrich Ursentaler with added rosette. A piece that wholly reflects upon Maximilian's political aspirations and his understanding of the use of coins as propaganda to bolster his authority, this famed type could certainly be counted as Ursentaler's magnum opus. Minted as part of a program that saw the striking of the first multiple talers of the House of Habsburg, this issue was produced for nothing less than Maximilian's acceptance of the imperial title. The imagery seen here was meant to correspond to a large statue in Augsburg which was, however, never completed. During his stay in the Netherlands in 1517, Maximilian required a large number of coins to serve as imperial gifts to promote his image, and requested dies be sent from the mint in Hall, to which a rosette was added to differentiate them from the products of Hall and defend the mint's reputation. No multiples above the 2 Guldiner were originally struck at Hall, though Schulden records weights up to 5 Guldiner minted in Antwerp. To our knowledge, a representative of this denomination has not come to auction in the last two decades.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



30099 Maximilian I gold “Friedrich III Memorial” Medal ND (1531) AU (damaged, flan crack), Horsky-829 var. (weight), Julius-Unl., Lanna-Unl., Goppel-Unl., Moser-Tursky-Unl. 44mm. 12.11gm. By Utz Gebhart. A rare representative of this commemorative type, produced in gold in the memory of Maximilian I and his father, Friedrich III. The obverse depicts the portraits of the two Emperors, with the legends naming Friedrich III as “Pat” (pater/father) and Maximilian as “Fil” (filius/son), the reverse bearing an ornate heraldic design flanked by cherubs and surrounded by legends naming the “noble family of Austria.” Attractively designed and displaying a near-uncirculated level of detail, with only faint hairlines noted throughout the surfaces, in addition to a single flan crack extending toward a small hole in the center. We are aware of only one other example of this medal in auction records, coming from Adolph Hess’s November 1910 sale of the Horsky Collection, where it was designated as a “Juden-Medaille,” and interestingly also noted as cracked (“Riss”), though it is unplated in that catalog.

Ulrich (Utz) Gebhart had been employed as a mintmaster and engraver at Leipzig, Joachimsthal, and, from 30 November 1528, at Vienna. Engaged under King Ferdinand, while residing in Vienna he still worked in the capacity of engraver for the Joachimsthal mint and was mintmaster at Zwickau from 1530-1531. For his part, Forrer mentions that Gebhart “engraved a large number of coin-dies and also several Medals of low-relief,” as is indeed seen here.
Estimate: \$12,000-\$18,000



A Glorious Commemorative for the Newly Crowned Archduke of Austria

30100 Ferdinand I (1522-1564) gold 10 Ducat 1522 AU Details (Mount Removed) NGC, St. Veit (Klagenfurt) mint, Fr-24 (Very Rare; this coin), cf. Schulten-4009 (for 2 Taler), Voglhuber-29 (RR; same), Montenuovo-Unl., Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl., Reimann-Unl., Trau Collection-Unl., Egg-Unl., Probszt-Type 12 (10 Ducat not recorded), Markl-1956 (existence of gold striking noted). 34.73gm. By Hieronymus Kirchpucher. A remarkable piece of history and contemporary propaganda, more than clearly situating the young Archduke in the line of Maximilian I's legendary reign. Ferdinand was born and spent most of his early life in Spain, and though he was Maximilian's grandson, he was in no way expected to succeed to the Austrian throne—his father, Philip the Handsome (as Maximilian's heir), and his brother (the future Charles V), were next in the line of succession. Moreover, contemporary accounts allude to the fact that Ferdinand did not even learn German in his youth. With his father's death in 1506, and with his brother entrusting him with the Austrian hereditary lands upon assuming the title of Holy Roman Emperor in 1519, however, Ferdinand soon found himself in the position of Archduke on his grandfather's throne. In an effort to strengthen his own realm, even while supporting the reign of his brother Charles, Ferdinand adopted the German language and culture as a way to ingratiate himself to the other German territorial princes, and a commemorative type such as this could be seen as an early attempt to strengthen those bonds. Both sides are heavily laden with imagery adopted from Maximilian's reign—the master of numismatic propaganda—with the obverse clearly copied from his Guldiner of 1518 (cf. Dav-8007) and the reverse motifs inspired by his 2 Guldiner (cf. Dav-LS282A), though now ringed with Ferdinand's own titles (interestingly as 'Prince of Spain'), clearly implying that the armored rider on horseback was the recently crowned Archduke.

Missing from all of the most major collections of German-Austrian imperial coinage and medals that we have consulted—including most notably Montenuovo, Horsky, and Julius—Markl's foundational study of Ferdinand's coinage suggests just one other specimen known in gold (though its weight is unrecorded), residing in the Königliche Münzkabinett in Berlin, with even the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna lacking an example. The noted mount removal is most inconspicuous, while the design elements find full expression over the olive-gold flan. For specialized collectors of Habsburg-Holy Roman Imperial issues, there may not be a more fitting centerpiece than this incredible specimen.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 80 (May 2001, Lot 640); Schweizerischer Bankverein Auction 38 (September 1995, Lot 2727) [cover lot]
Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



Shimmering Mint State 10 Ducat of Matthias II

30101 Matthias II gold 10 Ducat 1612 MS62 NGC, Vienna mint, KM155 (Rare), Fr-89 (Very Rare, listed as "No Date"), Horsky-Unl. 34.93gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. Dav-3041, KM144). Inestimably rare in this conditional preservation, and likely one of the finest survivors of the type, featuring the smaller, crowned bust of Holy Roman Emperor Matthias II. Friedberg appears somewhat inconsistent in his listing of the type, plating an example of this very issue for Fr-97 and Fr-97a (1612 20 Ducat and 1610 10 Ducat, respectively). The cited reference number, Fr-89, lists an undated 10 Ducat. Regardless of any incompleteness, all of these issues are noted as "Very Rare," and auction records fully confirm this, with only a handful having been auctioned in the last two decades; of those, none were finer than the present specimen. Dazzling with radiance at every turn, this well-struck offering presents strong definition throughout the majority of its designs, with only a small portion of softness visible in the lower section of the inner reverse border. The centrally positioned dies yield an even rim to serve as an impressive visual frame to the central motifs, and while faint hairlines preclude a finer designation, they are not distracting in the least. Clearly a specimen of stellar quality, currently the sole example of the type certified by NGC, and an offering that would be exceedingly difficult to surpass.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Mint State Breslau 5 Ducat - Only the Second Certified Example

30102 Ferdinand II gold 5 Ducat 1628 MS61 NGC, Breslau mint, cf. KM660 (listed as Vienna mint), Fr-153, Horsky-Unl., Köhler-65, MzA-125, Saurma-Jeltsch-Unl., F&S-221. 17.22gm. Johann Ziesler as mintmaster. A decidedly attractive example of this notably challenging type, conditionally scarce in this level of preservation. The popularity of this issue never ceases to wane among collectors, and this offering, presently one of only two examples certified, retains a commanding visual allure, even with evidence of light handling that aligns with the grade. Closer inspection reveals hardly a mark of any serious consequence over the fields, while intensive luster lends a gratifying freshness to the whole of the piece.

For the sake of completeness, we note a small planchet flaw on the reverse, between the V and S in AVS, though this is of little visual consequence and should not be mistaken for a test cut. Interestingly, the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* has placed this emission under the Vienna mint, though the end of the obverse legend clearly carries the abbreviation DV S for Dux Silesiae, a title omitted from his crown-mint coins, which end BO REX (for Borussiae Rex, "King of Prussia"). For his part, Köhler, in his *Vollständiges Ducaten-Cabinet*, even remarks that the placement of the title between the archducal and royal titles is peculiar. For reference, we sold a similar example in the same grade in our January 2020 NYINC sale, which realized \$50,400.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 295 (May 2003, Lot 74)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Breathtaking St. Veit 8 Ducat, Perhaps the Finest Known

30103 Ferdinand II gold 8 Ducat 1632 MS63 NGC, St. Veit mint, KM795, Fr-133 (Rare), Horský-Unl., Trau Collection-201, MzA-129, Herinek-55. 27.87gm. Hans Georg Perro as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM678). An absolute rarity, produced with an incredible level of precision that has left the devices deeply and fully expressed. Closer inspection confirms surfaces that radiate, having been unobscured by even the slightest forms of handling, while the whole of the flan has been beautifully formed, with not even the least bit of camber or bending present. Within the finer details of the bust—Ferdinand's hair, armor, and robe—definition remains strong, the designs lightly surrounded by tone as the open fields express a rich layer of original luster. For reference, we can draw upon only one other auction result from recent years, where a (likely inferior) piece brought 85,000 Euros in May 2017. As such, this specimen may only be the second example to have entered the marketplace since Adolph Hess's 1935 sale of the Franz Trau Collection. A lavish multiple ducat in all regards, likely incomparable in every way, destined to elevate the status of its next coin cabinet.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Standard Catalog "Plate Coin" Klippe 2 Taler

30104 Archduke Leopold V Klippe 2 Taler ND (1635) AU Details (Mount Removed) NGC, Hall mint, KM640 (Rare; this coin), Dav-3331, cf. Moser-Tursky-pg. 275, Fig. 487 (for standard, non-klippe issue), Enzenburg-207. 57.18gm. Posthumous issue under Claudia von Medici, regent of Tyrol from 1632 to 1646, to commemorate her wedding to Leopold on April 19, 1626, in Innsbruck. A very rare type, only made further desirable by its use as the plate coin in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*. Toned to a steel gray, with only minor wear visible across the surfaces and a degree of discoloration at the corners indicating prior mounting. A perhaps unique opportunity to acquire this extremely seldom-seen klippe type.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



A Shimmering Offering of This Very Rare Date

30105 Ferdinand III gold 10 Ducat 1642-(b) UNC Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, Vienna mint, KM900, Fr-209, Horský-1905, Köhler-Unl., Herinek-9. 34.49gm. Hans Jakob Stadler as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM839). By all indications an incredibly rare date for the issue, this specimen appears to be the third example to come to auction in the last 15-20 years. Featuring an accurate portrayal of the Emperor, the strike discloses a noteworthy definitiveness that leaves each detail raised to its full potential, with no softness or unevenness to the designs, even with a mild shift that has resulted in doubling. The surfaces are beautifully tinged with russet color in the recesses, and a quick tilt of the coin unleashes waves of glassy luster, allowing the viewer to be impressed by every angle. Aside from a small "X" engraved into the left obverse field, perhaps to notate the denomination, this massive gold multiple has been well cared for over the past several centuries. A showpiece in all respects, worthy of increased attention from collectors, and central placement in its next collection.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



Only the Second Example of this Date We Have Located

30106 Ferdinand III gold 10 Ducat 1643 AU Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, Breslau mint, KM-Unl., Fr-210, Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl., Saurma-Jeltsch-Unl., F&S-Unl., Herinek-48, MZA-141. 34.55gm. Michael Jan as mintmaster. A distinctive issue, characterized by its singular depiction of Ferdinand III wearing an open, mitred crown and a highly ornamented brocade. Rarely encountered at auction in any condition, we are aware of only one other representative of this date having been available, though without graffiti, which brought 120,000 Euros in June 2016. We would also note that, in his definitive study, Miller zu Aichholz knew of a single specimen in Görlitz, with none contained in the Vienna Coin Cabinet. As a whole, the visual presentation of this coin is markedly superb. The devices have been deeply and fully rendered, imbued with squared-off edges, while remnants of luster brighten the flan, particularly on the reverse. Closer inspection of the obverse reveals “Z” and “X” shaped scratches to the right of the portrait, which may represent the denomination written in Roman numerals—a hallmark observed on larger-sized gold multiples that may have been tied to their use as military expenditures during the Thirty Years’ War, as Ferdinand took over full command of the army after Wallenstein’s downfall.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Sublime 10 Ducat Preserved in Choice Mint State

30107 Ferdinand III gold 10 Ducat 1645 MS63 NGC, Vienna mint, KM926 (Rare), Fr-209, Horsky-Unl., Herinek-13. 34.64gm. Hans Jakob Stadler as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM882). A stunning example for a type that seldom comes to market, and one that is virtually never encountered in such an exemplary uncirculated preservation. The conditionally discriminating collector who is accustomed to close inspection will be pleased to know that in searching for marks, scratches, and minor imperfections, there are essentially none, with only minimal, evenly scattered friction to account for the grade designation. The result, truly, is a coin that easily has the appearance of an even finer grade. The visual presentation is further amplified by a crisp strike that leaves Ferdinand's bust sharply outlined, as well as highly ornate, even throughout the most intricate features, with the reverse heraldic design no less stunning. Golden luster careens with graceful ease across the fields, sparkling within the eagle's feather details and in the lower-lying areas of the central shield, confirming what seems so obvious at face: namely, that locating a better example would be virtually impossible. As the sole certified example in NGC's census, and an utterly impressive one at that, this glorious representative is bound to encounter fierce bidder competition.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



An Extremely Rare Reverse for this 10 Ducat Type, Struck to a Virtually Prooflike Standard

30108 Ferdinand III gold 10 Ducat 1655-(c) UNC Details (Obverse Graffiti, Bent) NGC, Vienna mint, KM-Unl., Fr-209, Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl., Reichel Collection-Unl., Herinek-20. 34.49gm. Jan Conrad Richthausen as mintmaster. Date reworked from 1654. Struck from the same obverse die as the 20 Ducat, also in this sale. The perfect companion to the other 1655 10 Ducat included in this collection, and certainly a specimen that is no less impressive. The noted modifiers on the holder are essentially inconsequential—the bend readily dismissible and unobtrusive, while the “X” before the bust is likely an early expression of the value. Additionally, while we have been able to track three other examples of the other known variety of this date, sales records over the past several decades indicate that this may be the only representative with the “eagle-less” reverse design. A truly marvelous selection, hardly a hint of friction detected atop the highest points of the design, with fields awash in full mint bloom that reaches a crescendo on the reverse, welling up to near-Prooflike reflectivity. Very likely among the finest survivors of this challenging type, and perhaps one of the only available specimens of this variety for the collector to acquire.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 297 (October 2003, Lot 152)
Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



A Splendid Series Rarity Scarcely Encountered at Auction

30109 Ferdinand III gold 10 Ducat 1655-(c) UNC Details (Reverse Damage) NGC, Vienna mint, KM993, Fr-209, Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl., Reichel Collection-Unl., MzA-153, Herinek-20. 34.31gm. Jan Conrad Richthausen as mintmaster. Dated reworked from 1654. Struck from the same dies as the 20 Ducat, also in this sale. A piece which eludes all attempts at a description that can fully do justice to its true rarity. Working from extant auction records over the past 20 years, together with catalogs of major collections, we have been able to trace only three examples offered in the last decade and a half—one from Hess-Divo's April 2008 Auction 309 (lot 730), one from Numismatica Ars Classica's January 2005 Auction 28 (lot 91), and one from Rauch's May 2010 Auction 86 (lot 3778). What is perhaps even more telling, however, is the number of major collections that did not include a specimen, to which we can enumerate Adolph Hess's 1911 sale of Hermitage duplicates, the Horsky, Julius, and Reichel Collections, and Hess-Leu's October 1962 Goldprägungen auction. One of two designs employed for this date, the other showing a large shield surmounted by a crown and ringed with the Order of the Golden Fleece, though both were struck from the same obverse die, this particular emission has the trait of being minted with a reverse unique to the gold types of this date.

Any explanation for the exact purposes for which such a coin might have been produced continue to puzzle us. The fact that the reverse die of the other 1655 10 Ducat extends back to 1651, together with the reworked date, may suggest that the design was initially conceived during Ferdinand's summoning of the Reichstag, where he postponed constitutional questions he considered dangerous to his power and had his son elected as King of the Romans in 1653 (though he died in 1654). Whether or not such a broad gold multiple would have been meant to convey a sense of the Emperor's grandeur and royalty before the Perpetual Reichstag assumed a great deal more authority is hard to know for certain, though we can remark on the majesty and resolve depicted for the aging Ferdinand.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Needle-Sharp Crowned Bust 10 Ducat of Ferdinand III

30110 Ferdinand III gold 10 Ducat 1657 MS62 NGC, Breslau mint, KM996, Fr-210 (Rare), Saurma-Jeltsch-Unl., F&S-Unl., Herinek-51 (this coin cited). 34.75gm. G. Reichart as mintmaster. Of the highest quality for its type, and very likely without parallel for its precision-struck detail and sharpness alone. The Austrian 10 Ducats of Ferdinand III were produced at both the Vienna and Breslau mints in the years between 1638 and 1657. The 1657 date of this specimen indicates production in the final year of Ferdinand's reign, with the crowned bust serving as the marker of its issuance by the mint at Breslau.

Advanced collectors will recognize that even the most valuable denominations struck in the 17th century, including the very largest gold issues produced, occasionally suffered from the production limitations of the day; strikes were often slightly uneven, if not incomplete. This offering, however, demonstrates not a hint of any such problems. In fact, its crisp detail may well be its greatest strength, for every minute feature expresses an exactitude and clarity that could normally only be expected of the most finely produced medals of the age.

The Emperor's bust remains clearly contoured, as do the most intricate details within, including his well-defined individual hair strands and the fine ornamentation of his regal attire. Yet more impressive, perhaps, is the reverse, where the Austrian eagle is produced to such visual splendor as to be absolutely stunning. Every individual feather is easily discernible against the surrounding details, picked out individually by a pinpoint strike that has left not a single insignificant spot of softness. The sheer boldness of the legends to either side serves as an intricate frame for the central motifs, holding aurous brilliance within that shimmers brightly upon even cursory inspection, cascading across the fields and illuminating the surfaces in dazzling light. Only the gentlest wispy lines in the open expanses preclude finer certification, and indeed, if a finer example exists then we have not yet seen it, nor has NGC, which has certified only the present specimen to date.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 89 (October 2003, Lot 172); Schweizerischer Bankverein Auction 9 (January 1980, Lot 933); Adolph Hess Auction 243 (April 1974, Lot 925)

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



Exceptionally Rare Ferdinand III 20 Ducat

30111 Ferdinand III gold 20 Ducat 1655 AU55 NGC, Vienna mint, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., Horsky-Unl., Reichel Collection-Unl., MzA-Unl. 69.26gm. Jan Conrad Richthausen as mintmaster. An exceedingly rare type, double the weight of the 10 Ducat issue listed in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*. At present, this is the only example that we have seen or have been able to locate—a fact that lends some credence to the speculation that the production of this type was limited to somewhere between only a single and a small handful of examples. Of clear note, the offering was struck from the same dies as the 10 Ducat also offered in this auction, which displays identical diagnostics and reworking of the date, particularly in the final digit.

Immense rarity aside, this selection expresses an incredible appeal in its own right; truly, it appears self-evident in hand that preservation is on the very cusp of Mint State. Smaller details, including Ferdinand's hair, his dress, and the eagle's crown and feathers retain laudable definition. A minute degree of rub, while present, does little to diminish what must necessarily be viewed as an exceptional display of clarity and sharpness. Subtle rotation unleashes glimmering luster across the entirety of the surfaces, and cabinet tone in honey-gold confirms the specimen's age and originality, all while bolstering its aesthetic allure. A likely unique opportunity for our bidders, this grandiose 20 Ducat represents the very peak of desirability for advanced collectors of the fleeting Austrian multiple series.

Estimate: \$80,000-\$120,000



30112 Archduke Ferdinand Karl 2 Taler ND (1654) MS62 NGC, Hall mint, KM985, Dav-3364, Moser-Tursky-pg. 290, Fig. 511. 57.69gm. A selection which awes on account of its superior, near-choice preservation, with just one example ranking a point finer across both major grading services. Watery luster rolls effortlessly over the gunmetal surfaces, revealing hardly a significant mark of any serious consequence.

Ex. Künker Auction 80 (March 2003, Lot 920)

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



A Potentially Unique Weight for this Utterly Scarce “Special” Emission of Sigismund Franz

30113 Archduke Sigismund Franz gold Medallion 20 Ducat ND (c. 1663) MS61 NGC, Hall mint, KM-Unl., Fr-251 (Very Rare), Horský-Unl., Julius-Unl., cf. Moser-Tursky-pg. 299, Fig. 526 (composition not stated, though off-metal strikes in 12 ducat weight are cited in the text). 69.26 gm. By Matthias König. An issue of both immense visual and historical status, almost certainly standing as the largest type—monetary or medallion—produced during Sigismund Franz’s brief reign from 1662 until 1665. Assuming rule of Tirol upon the death of his elder brother, Archduke Ferdinand Karl, although Sigismund had never intended to rule and pursued an ecclesiastical path, he set about curbing mismanagement and excessive bureaucracy in his realm. Further seeking to reform the monetary system, he proceeded with undoing his brother’s policies that had put the operations of the Hall mint on hold, except for the production of numerous special-occasion issues. Although Talers of his reign are quite scant in their own right, Moser and Tursky record that only 2 “special” medallion types were produced under his oversight (figures 526 and 527), which also exist in gold strikings. Both soundly have been said to have come from the hand of Matthias König, who Forrer states retired on a yearly pension of 367 florins in March 1663. This strongly points to a period of production for the present specimen during that year, as Moser and Tursky write that his pension was raised to that amount from 200 florins in April 1663 in concordance with Sigismund’s desire to see to the fair payment of his officials.

This offering can only be regarded as of the highest rarity, if not downright unique in this weight. Not only missing from auction records of recent years, we note that the type was also completely absent from the Horský and Julius collections, with the 1901 *Katalog der Münzen- und Medaillen-Stempel-Sammlung des k. k. Hauptmünzamt in Wien* also making no mention whatsoever to such a piece. Appearing soundly Mint State with only minimal, grade-aligning chatter in the fields, we fully expect this selection to find a place of the utmost prominence in its next owner’s cabinet.

Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



30114 Leopold I 2 Taler 1675-IAN MS63+ NGC, Graz mint, KM1268, Dav-LS292, CNA-40-b-9. 57.23gm. Johann Anton Nowak as mintmaster. The sole example of the type currently certified by NGC, with a review of auction records confirming the standout quality of this specimen as compared to the norm for surviving examples, which tend to exhibit varying degrees of wear and other imperfections. Mint gloss remains evident at even the highest points, which retain a distinctive sharpness, particularly in Leopold's well-defined locks of hair and his draped, cuirassed figure. Evenly toned with pebble-gray coloration, this decidedly choice example is likely among the finest survivors of this fleeting issue.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000



30115 Leopold I gold 5 Ducat 1659 UNC Details (Obverse Graffiti)
 NGC, Vienna mint, KM1163, Fr-262, Horsky-Unl., Herinek-84, CNA-8-a-2. Franz Faber von Rosenstock as mintmaster. Laureate bust of Leopold I right / Crowned imperial eagle. Issued in the Emperor's second year of reign, this large-sized multiple Ducat is rare in any condition, and especially so as fine as the present piece. Fully uncirculated, with bright luster apparent throughout the recesses of the design and touches of orange-gold patina accenting the flan. The designation of "Obverse Graffiti" undoubtedly refers to the engraved "S" that appears in the central field to the right of the portrait, a designation of value that is almost certainly contemporary and may be considered relatively insignificant.

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000

30116 Leopold I gold 5 Ducat 1669 AU55 NGC, Vienna mint, KM1263 (Rare), Fr-262, Horsky-Unl., CNA-28-a-3. 17.28gm. Franz Faber von Rosenstock as mintmaster. A gleaming representative of this scarce multiple ducat type issued under Leopold I, during whose reign the Ottoman Empire unsuccessfully besieged Vienna, subsequently losing the majority of Hungarian lands to the Holy Roman Emperor. Sparkling golden brilliance throughout confirms a decidedly near-Mint State preservation, with the majority of struck detail clear and minimally disturbed, even at the highest points. The strike appears very near to full, excepting isolated traces of softness, with a central placement of the dies upon the flan producing a balanced rim to frame the central features. Difficult to acquire in any state, and even more so in this borderline uncirculated condition, this commendable 17th-century 5 ducat deserves the closest inspection and consideration.

Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000



Seemingly Unpublished Breslau 10 Ducat of 1670

30117 Leopold I gold 10 Ducat 1670-SHS XF Details (Removed From Jewelry) NGC, Breslau mint, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl (cf. Fr-258a for type), Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl., Saurma-Jeltsch-Unl., F&S-Unl., CNA-Unl. 34.47gm. Salomon Hammerschmidt as wardein. A type within the Austrian-Silesian series that remains unsurpassed in status. This 10 Ducat issue is, by all indications, the largest gold denomination minted under Salomon Hammerschmidt's tenure as wardein of Breslau mint, the next highest being an unpublished 3 Ducat. Entirely unrecorded in standard literature, the only reference to 10 Ducat pieces produced under Leopold in Breslau comes from Friedberg, who cites the dates 1663, 1674, and 1695, none of which appear in the *Corpus Nummorum Austriae*. Our research has revealed that an example from 1663 is the only date to reach the marketplace in recent years—though Friedberg mentions an example (date unspecified) coming to light in the 2008 New York Sale. This carried the initials of wardein Georg Hübner and was of a very distinctive style compared to the coin presented here. Additionally, these dies do not seem to match any known taler issues. According to records of the *Deutsches Münzpreis-Jahrbuch*, no 10 Ducats of this date have appeared in auction since at least the late 90s. Despite some mild damage from its use in jewelry and clear circulation wear, the devices appear of a carefully measured style, with Leopold's bust taking on a much more humanistic appearance than that of the more heavily caricatured style seen on contemporary emissions. Almost certainly unique, we can think of few entries in the series that should command as much attention.

Ex. Rauch Auction 72 (September 2003, Lot 1918)
Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Choice-Quality Graz 25 Ducat

30118 Leopold I gold 25 Ducat 1678-1AN UNC Details (Obverse Scratched) NGC, Graz mint, KM-Unl., Fr-307 (Very Rare), Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl., MzA-Unl., CNA-Unl. 86.16gm. Johann Anton Nowak as mintmaster. Struck from 2 Taler dies (cf. KM1268). Date reworked from 1675. A gratifying specimen whose covetable status is affirmed by its expansive golden planchet, capturing the entirety of its intricately executed motifs against a backdrop of choice luster. In fact, if not for the small pair of scratches before Leopold's bust, the coin would easily certify as Choice Mint State. Perhaps unique in this 25 Ducat-weight, we have been unable to find any records of such a piece in the standard literature. Neither the Horsky nor the Julius collections contained an example, nor does it seem to have been known to Miller zu Aichholz. While Friedberg mentions a 25 Ducat of this date, that work neither plates an example nor specifies a mint. Interestingly, the *Corpus Nummorum Austriacorum* does record a 1678-dated 30 Ducat minted in Graz (currently housed in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna) that was also struck from 2 Taler dies and a reworked date from a 1675 stamp, suggesting it was probably produced from the same dies as the present piece. For the sake of comparison, the largest denomination we found at auction in recent years was a 10 Ducat of 1672, which realized \$32,500 in 2008.

Sold with Hess-Divo envelope (date of purchase unknown); Dr. Bergmeister Collection (Otto Helbing October 1891, Lot 120)
Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



Lovely “City View” Medal Commemorating the Battle of Vienna

30119 Leopold I gold “Siege of Vienna” Medal of 5 Ducats 1683 MS61 NGC, Hirsch-57, “Beschreibung der auf die Belagerung Wiens geschlagenen Medaillen” (Berichte und Mittheilungen des Alterthums-Vereines zu Wien 8, 1865), pg. CCXXII (Anhang), 5, Kádebo-16, cf. Wellenheim-7221 (in silver), Julius-194 (same), Horsky-Unl. 38mm. 17.39gm. Unsigned. Eagle bearing olive branch and coats of arms of Austria and Vienna flying above scene of fortified Vienna, DIE ADLERS BURCK BESCHIRME FERNER GOTT UND UNGLUCK TREFF DIE BÖSE TURKEN ROTT / Small medallion portrait of Leopold I within laurel branches above twelve lines of text, date above, DEN 14 – IUL. IST WIENN – VON TURKN BELAGERT MIT FEUER UND STURMEN 8 WOCHEN BEANG., STIGT. UND DEN 12 SEPT. VON K. M. LEOPOLDO. I. MIT HILFF DERO ALIIRTN ENT SEZT UND DER FEIND MIT VER. LASSUNG STUCK. U. PAGAGE DAVON GESCHLAGEN WOR., DEN GOTT SEY GE DANCKT. On the Siege of Vienna and the subsequent liberation of the city.

Vienna had long been a wishful acquisition of the Ottoman Empire for its strategic location along various European trade routes, their first attempted capture of the city taking place in 1529 with a failed two-week siege. In 1683, Ottoman forces made a second attempt, placing the city under siege for two months. The siege would culminate in the Battle of Vienna on 12th September of that year, a disastrous failure for the Ottoman Empire, and Vienna would ultimately remain in the hands of the Holy Roman Empire. The present medal commemorates the events of the siege and the city’s decisive victory with a dramatic and beautiful “city view” design, showing the fortified exterior walls of the city, the enemy encampments, rows of cannons, and several soldiers, many of whom are mounted, riding into combat. The overall surface quality is exceptional, with vibrant, gently reflective luster shining forth from beneath a sheen of aged green-gold patina. A superb and attention-commanding specimen.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000







Massive Joseph I Gold Coronation Medal - Only the Second Confirmed Example

30120 Leopold I gold “Coronation of Joseph I” Medal of 100 Ducats ND (1690)-GFN MS61 Prooflike NGC, Montenuovo-1221 var. (there, in silver), Horsky-2416 var. (same), Julius-520 (cover lot). 80mm. 348.33gm. By Martin Brunner and George Friedrich Nürnberger. AN REICHS DUKATEN GOLD NETTO HUNDERT DUCATEN IN BANCO on edge. A massive specimen commissioned upon the coronation of Leopold’s son Joseph (later Emperor Joseph I), and certainly awe-inspiring in every way. The fields roll with a mirrorlike finish beneath minor marks, while the intricate reverse scene contains a full family tree of the Habsburg emperors from Rudolf I to Leopold I, each depicted in a small medallion. For the sake of accuracy, we note some light cabinet friction on the higher points of Leopold’s hair, though this proves quite minor, considering both the sheer relief of the features and the fact that, as indicated by the edge inscription, such pieces could have encountered use in trade as monetary objects. Deemed as the “absolute highlight” of the 2003 Hesso-Divo sale, we know of one other example in gold, which brought 10,000 German Marks as part of R. Gaetten’s sale of the Julius Collection in July 1958 (an enormous sum of money and the highest price achieved in the sale, where most other lots brought between 80 and 250 Marks, the next highest lot bringing 1,775 Marks). An absolutely once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 295 (May 2003, Lot 75); Rudolf Just Collection (Sotheby’s December 2001, Lot 350)

Estimate: \$100,000-\$200,000



30121 Republic gold Prooflike 100 Schilling 1929 PL61 NGC, Vienna mint, KM2842, Fr-250. Defined by only faint instances of handling over surfaces that resound with Prooflike reflectivity and needle-sharp detail. Absent any larger contact or marks, making this a highly collectible example of the type.
Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,200

AUSTRIAN NETHERLANDS



Wonderful Pattern 10 Souverain d'Or Bearing the Portrait of Franz I

30122 Maria Theresa gold Pattern 10 Souverain d'Or (Ducaton) 1751 MS61 NGC, Antwerp mint, KM-Pn1 (Rare), Fr-140 (under Belgium and Franz I), Eypeltauer-717, Herinek-666 (under Franz I), Delm-214 (R3), Vanhoudt-843 (R3). 55.42gm. Draped and cuirassed bust of Franz I right / Coat of arms on chest of double-headed imperial eagle, surrounded by the chain of the Order of the Golden Fleece. As early as 1750, the Court of Vienna expressed the wish to have coins bearing the effigy of Franz I struck in the Austrian Netherlands, an idea which was met with some controversy as the Emperor was not considered sovereign over the territory. In 1751, however, coins of “five double sovereigns in gold” were minted bearing his portrait in two styles, one with the reverse design featuring Maria Theresa, and the other with the reverse design as seen on this present offering (*Mémoire de la Jointe des Monnaies*, January 9, 1774). Very few examples were produced, and they were not issued into circulation. As such, this type may be properly categorized as a Pattern or Essai issue, as it is described in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and in Delmonte. The present offering appears fully Mint State, with no trace of wear, while rippling Prooflike reflectivity appears in the fields—suggestive of a Proof or Specimen striking. Known only to Delmonte from a specimen in the Cabinet de Bruxelles, an example of the type most recently achieved 190,000 Euros in November 2017, reaffirming its supreme rarity and desirability among collectors.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Immense Dual-Portrait Gold Pattern

30123 Maria Theresa gold Pattern 10 Souverain d'Or (Ducaton) 1751 AU58 NGC, Antwerp mint, KM-Pn2 (Rare), Fr-139 (under Belgium and Franz I), Eypeltauer-527, Herinek-667 (under Franz I), Delm-213 (R3), Vanhoudt-845 (R3). 55.42gm. Described in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and in Delmonte as a Pattern issue, this massive gold type depicts the opposing portraits of Franz I, Holy Roman Emperor, and his wife, Maria Theresa. Overall the quality is exceptional, especially given the size and age. The slightest hint of wear on the high point of each cheek perhaps accounts for the assigned grade, but the designation fails to justify the sheer eye appeal of the piece, the surfaces of which positively glow with a smooth, watery reflectivity that lends an altogether Prooflike appearance. Indeed, as a Pattern issue, it is not unlikely that this type was struck upon specially prepared dies, and perhaps an attribution of Proof would be more apt. Cataloged as extremely rare by Delmonte, with a similar rarity indicated by Vanhoudt suggesting that he believed the type to become available only once every 10 years, Delmonte recorded only two examples—one in the Cabinet de Bruxelles and one in a private collection. For reference, the last example to come to auction brought 110,000 CHF in June 2020. Undoubtedly extremely rare, and worthy of close study.
Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000

BELGIUM



30124 Leopold I 5 Francs 1835 MS64 NGC, Brussels mint, KM3.1, Dav-50, Dupriez-122 (R1), Bogaert-122A (R). Position A. A scarce date when compared to the more common 1833-dated issues, which saw over 1.1 million struck against the only 370,000 examples produced in 1835. Better examples, such as the present piece, are therefore downright scarce, with no others certifying above the present level at either NGC or PCGS, and only a single other selection (seen by PCGS) meeting the technical quality of this offering. Clad in a delightful pewter tone with a pullaway effect revealing bright mint luster at the legends and the peripheries of Leopold's bust, this glassy example, ultra-sharp and lacking all but the most trivial signs of handling, might even be considered conservatively graded, easily justifying a competitive bid.

Estimate: \$1,500-\$2,000



Finest-Certified Wedding Commemorative

30125 Leopold I gold Specimen “Royal Wedding” 100 Francs 1853 SP65 Cameo NGC, Brussels mint, KM-XM3.1, Fr-409, Dupriez-529 (R3), Bogaert-535B2 (R3). Hyphen between dates variety. Mintage: 482. By L. Wiener. Struck to commemorate the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Brabant. The “technically finest” grade designation of this gem specimen should leave collectors with little doubt as to its extreme desirability. Across all issues certified, no other example meets the lofty presentation of this representative, which distinguishes itself by a commendable level of preservation, coupled with the highest degree of matching eye appeal. A firm strike renders the busts of Leopold and the Duke and Duchess of Brabant with painstaking accuracy, their features fully expressed and meticulously decorated in a gracious coating of mint frost, while utterly sharp legends provide a clean visual frame for the centers, in conjunction with a clear rim that rises well-above the fields below. Shimmering luster echoes across the fields, revealing handling so scant that the elite grade assigned, high as it is, is fully justified. A true “peak quality” coin, one that comes with our highest recommendation, and unlikely to be exceeded in its grandeur for the foreseeable future.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



30126 Leopold I gold Specimen “Royal Wedding” 100 Francs 1853 AU Details (Reverse Graffiti) NGC, Brussels mint, KM-XM3.1, Fr-409, Dupriez-529 (R3), Bogaert-535B2 (R3). Hyphen between dates variety. Mintage: 482. Struck to commemorate the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Brabant. Perhaps a more affordable example of this commemorative issue, displaying isolated marks and a single instance of swirled lines to the left of the reverse conjoined busts, likely accounting for the “graffiti” notation. Despite light rub at the higher points and gentle hairlines to the fields, this specimen conveys ample mint luster throughout, indicating its close proximity to Mint State condition. Fully struck and displaying clear outlines to all devices along with a commendable degree of remaining detail.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



BOHEMIA



A Fully Choice Rarity from this Elusive Barony

30127 Rosenberg, Wilhelm (1581-1592) gold Medallion 4 Ducat ND (1585) MS63 NGC, Reichenstein mint, Fr-107a, Saurma-Jeltsch-16, Plate XXXVI, 9, F&S-2492, Donebauer-3703 (RR). 13.98gm. A stunning issue, struck to an admirable precision of detail that leaves both the central devices and the bordering rims dramatically raised. Suggested by Donebauer to have been produced for Wilhelm of Rosenberg's admission into the Order of the Golden Fleece—a motif which is featured on both the obverse bust, as well as on the reverse as a border to the rider on horseback. In hand, it is nearly impossible not to be entranced by this specimen. To our knowledge, there has only been one other example to emerge at auction in recent years—a worn piece with graffiti, certified XF40 by ICG, that was sold by Stack's as lot 2424 in their January 2008 sale of the Kroisos Collection. The present offering shows only minor die imperfections behind the bust (not to be mistaken for scratches), and as such, we can only suppose that this representative is likely among the finest, if not the finest known, and is certain to become the centerpiece in any serious collection of Bohemian coinage.

One of the most powerful and respected families of the Bohemian gentry, the von Rosenbergs were also the first private individuals in Bohemia to be granted the right to mint, in 1422. Though exercised only sporadically, Wilhelm obtained the right for himself after acquiring the Reichenstein lordship from Münsterberg in 1581. Under his successor, Reichstein was sold to the dukes of Liegnitz-Brieg.

Ex. Gorny & Mosch Auction 120 (October 2002, Lot 6033)
Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



30128 Rudolf II “Three Emperors” Taler 1590 AU58 NGC, Joachimsthal or Prague mint, Dav-8105 (under Archduke Ferdinand as Hall mint), Voglhuber-86 (same), Markl-1953, Moser-Tursky-Unl., Donebauer-Unl., Dietiker-Unl., Halacka-Type 1. Paul Hoffman (?) as mintmaster. Among the earliest emissions from this highly sought-after series—firmly attributable to the reign of Rudolf II—this offering expresses an attractive antique appearance coupled with splendid eye appeal. While light circulation wear exists atop the highpoints, in-line with the assigned designation, a wonderful clarity of detail is expressed throughout—from the finer points of the emperors’ hair and beards, down to the Orders of the Golden Fleece—with a flan that beautifully mixes age-old, dove-gray tone with shades of sky-blue. Presently the single finest certified example at NGC by 13 grade points, with none yet seen by PCGS, collectors could hardly hope for a more fitting representative of the type.

Traditionally assigned to the mint of Hall under the reign of Ferdinand as Archduke, Halacka (1987) has reassigned the issue to Rudolf II at Joachimsthal, though Prague is also a likely candidate. As Hall only produced coins from roller dies at this time, it can be ruled out with no uncertainty as the minting location.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



30129 Matthias II “Three Emperors” Taler ND (1612-1619) AU53 NGC, Prague mint, KM123, Dav-3066, Horsky-1460, Donebauer-1892, Dietiker-520, Halacka-Type 2. Benedikt Huebner (?) as mintmaster. A beloved type from the Holy Roman Empire, and an issue that has inspired as much discussion over the circumstances of its production as it has over the beauty of its artistic execution. Though most often attributed to the reign of Matthias II (likely on the basis of his coronation talers which have his portrait and titles, cf. Dav-3064), Halacka has more recently argued (1992) that the type belongs to the reign of Rudolf II, with a similar commemorative, though of different style, securely dated to 1590 (cf. Dav-8105). Regardless of its precise dating, this current offering is undoubtedly special—from its striking motifs to its superb technical quality, with a subtle golden tone that emerges from the gunmetal fields, beautifully silhouetting the finer features. Only light rub atop the highest points of the design are noted, though this is of little consequence to the overall alluring nature of this piece.

Ex. Künker Auction 86 (September 2003, Lot 1042)

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



Virtually Immaculate “Three Emperors” 5 Ducat

30130 Matthias II gold “Three Emperors” 5 Ducat ND (1612-1619)
MS63 NGC, Prague mint, KM141 (Rare), Fr-14e (Rare), Horsky-1220 var. (under Rudolf; there, with rosette initial mark on reverse), Donebauer-1890 var. (under Matthias; there, with rose initial mark on reverse), Markl-1950 var. (same), Dietiker-552, Halacka-Type 2. 17.32gm. Benedikt Huebmer (?) as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. Voglhuber-120/II). A coin whose enviable survivorship over the last 400+ years is almost unbelievable, even under close in-hand inspection. The surfaces are essentially immaculate, with Prooflike reflective brilliance that washes over the expanses. Flatness, an under-expression of detail are virtually absent, save for a spot of weakness on Maximilian’s crown. Few locatable examples seem to have come to auction in recent decades, with perhaps the nearest contender being the plate coin in Friedberg, though no indication is provided as to the weight of that specimen. As such it is not at all improbable that this offering may be among the finest extant, and at the very least, seems to warrant a finer technical grade.

The date surrounding the production of the “Three Emperors” (Dreikaiser) series with the busts of Maximilian I, Charles V, and Ferdinand I looking right is not fully agreed upon. From historical records, Halacka has argued against the traditional attribution of the type to the reign of Matthias II, instead suggesting that these were commemoratives for Rudolf II’s coronation as Emperor. Zacharias Kempf, former die cutter at the Joachimsthal mint, was forced to leave his position for health reasons in 1590, receiving a pension of 15 Groschen per week. When approaching Emperor Rudolf, who resided in Prague for his entire reign, for a raise, he further sent along the dies for these coins. While Matthias would later use the same obverse dies on his coronation talers (cf. Dav-3064), which carried his portrait and name, it is indeed true that the transition from the previous Three Emperors type (cf. Dav-8105) had brought with it a change in the design of the crowns so that they featured a mitred style, in keeping with the structure of the famous crown of Rudolf II.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Virtually Choice Bohemian 5 Ducat

30131 Ferdinand II gold 5 Ducat 1633-(p) MS62 NGC, Prague mint, KM317, Fr-39, Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl., Donebauer-Unl., Herinek-88, Dietiker-757. 17.23gm. Tobias Schuster as mintmaster. By all indications an incredibly scarce date for this already rare gold coinage. A review of auction records confirms that, aside from this specimen, there has only been one other example to surface in the last 20 years or so—that piece being a cleaned specimen with a mount removal, yet still achieving \$14,000 in January of 2013. This offering, struck on a sound flan, is free of any serious undulations, bending, or flaws.

Coins such as this very clearly asserted Ferdinand's power and dominance during the difficult years of the Thirty Years' War. His depiction standing clad in full armor certainly pointed to what he saw as the sanctity of his office, perhaps even more noteworthy in 1633 for his mounting suspicions and subsequent deposition of Albrecht von Wallenstein, whom he suspected of plotting a coup. As a date, this coin is notably missing from the Horsky, Julius, and Donebauer collections, and we find it highly unlikely that collectors will soon have another chance to add such a fine example to their collections.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 89 (October 2003, Lot 170)
Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Astonishingly Rare Date 10 Ducat from the Dawn of the Kipperzeit

30132 Ferdinand II gold 10 Ducat 1621-(I) AU Details (Mount Removed) NGC, Prague mint, KM319, Fr-38, Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl., Donebauer-2125 (RR), Dietiker-760. 34.60gm. Benedikt Huebner as mintmaster. The inaugural date for this type produced under Benedikt Huebner, and a strikingly engaging issue for its mintage during the Kipper-und Wipperzeit, a period of rampant debasement at the start of the Thirty Years' War that began around 1621. During this time, large-sized gold coins such as this were only a dream for states that saw financial despair and hyperinflation.

A small and remarkably inconspicuous mount removal on the edge at 12 o'clock has caused little-to-no disturbance to the surrounding areas of the planchet. Even more impressive, however, is the absence of serious weakness or unevenness to blur the finer elements of the design, perhaps the one exception being a small spot of rub atop the imperial orb. Overall, the level of preservation is simply enviable for the grade, with luster still prevalent over both sides. According to our research, only one other representative of the date has surfaced at auction in recent memory, stemming from the Stack Collection, which brought the equivalent of nearly \$25,000 in its last public appearance in June 2008. Aside from that example and the present specimen, we are only aware of one other, in the Donebauer Collection (illustrated by a line drawing). There are seemingly none recorded by Miller zu Aichholz, nor is there one present in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. Certainly, one of the undisputed keys in this series, perhaps only behind the 1632 12 Ducat of the same design, listed by Friedberg as simply as "unknown."

Ex. Heritage Auction #3011 (2003, Lot 12019)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Stunning Gem Bohemian 10 Ducat

30133 Ferdinand II gold 10 Ducat 1633-(p) MS65 NGC, Prague mint, KM319, Fr-38, Donebauer-Unl., Horsky-Unl. 34.62gm. Tobias Schuster von Goldberg as mintmaster. No superlative can do a coin justice when encountered in such a splendid degree of preservation. One would think this conditional state nearly impossible for a specimen of its era, and yet, one's mind must necessarily accept the truth that at first seems difficult to grasp—namely, that a gold coin of such scale and age could survive to the present in nothing less than extraordinary condition. A survey of population figures confirms a fact that seems nearly obvious at face: this offering is the finest certified, not only for its date, but also its type.

The piece's production during the turbulent period of the Thirty Years' War only makes its conditional survival that much more exceptional. As Ferdinand reasserted himself in Bohemia following the defeat of Protestant forces at the Battle of White Mountain in 1620, such a large gold production would have sent a clear message to any beholder: Ferdinand, and Austria, represented the unchallenged authority in Bohemia, and further, the Holy Roman Emperor possessed the wealth and power to back his position. Though events dragged on sufficiently long that Ferdinand's treasury would eventually be exhausted by ongoing conflict, sparking a financial reliance on Spain that would drag Austria down with her in the later stages of the struggle, the offering seen here is a monument to the aspirations of an Emperor who dreamt of re-establishing hegemony on the European continent and once and for all asserting Catholic dominance across his domains.

Close inspection of the specimen leaves nothing to be desired. The devices, crafted to impressive detail and sharply outlined, stand in stark relief against the fields below. A turn of the wrist ignites a full display of lustrous brilliance throughout the surfaces, these showing not a single instance of meaningful handling to deter the eye as it moves across features that are captivating in their clarity and preservation. It is difficult to imagine that a finer example exists, and whoever the ultimate winning bidder is, he or she will certainly be the proud owner of what can only be accurately summarized as a coin of truly epic proportions.

Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



30134 Ferdinand III Medallion 2 Taler 1629 AU Details (Obverse Scratched) NGC, Prague mint, KM-Unl., Dav-LS289, cf. Horsky-1966 (4 Taler), Julius-Unl., Herinek-91, Donebauer-2353, Dietiker-Unl. 57.93gm. By Donatus Starckh. One of the indisputable masterpieces of Baroque engraving, the so-called multiple talers and multiple ducats of 1629 are among the most gratifying emissions of the Habsburg series. Though often referred to under the misnomer that these were presentation pieces minted for Ferdinand's coronation as King of Bohemia in 1627 (first articulated by Edward Fiala in his catalog of the Donebauer Collection), Macho & Chalpovič have recently pointed out that this issue, more likely a medal, instead celebrates the Archduke's recovery from smallpox. While not much seems to be written on the subject, it is well known that repeated intermarriage within the royal family led to numerous members of the House of Habsburg contracting the disease, which in many cases led to their deaths. Accordingly, that such a broad and imposing piece would have been produced to commemorate the recovery of the leading Catholic Monarch in Europe in the middle of the Thirty Years' War is hardly surprising. From a visual perspective, while the noted obverse scratches are indeed unfortunate, these are in fact a relatively minor fault to find for the type, as most examples have been mounted, tooled, or encountered (often poorly) gilt. As such, this nearly uncirculated survivor is a true outlier. **Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000**

30135 Ferdinand III Medallion 3 Taler 1629 AU Details (Reverse Tooled) NGC, Prague mint, KM-Unl., Dav-LS288, Montenuovo-790, cf. Horsky-1966 (4 Taler), Julius-Unl., cf. Donebauer-2353 (2 Taler), Dietiker-Unl. 86.70gm. By Donatus Starckh. Struck in celebration of Ferdinand's recovery from smallpox. A coveted commemorative, produced in silver to a total of 7 different weights that range from the 2 taler up to the 12 taler, with denominations greater than the double taler rapidly escalating in rarity. For instance, our research reveals only a single other specimen in this weight at auction in recent years, a gilt piece which nonetheless achieved a hammer price of 8,000 Euros in February 2018. Closer inspection of the reverse leads us to believe that tooling may have been intended as a remedy to the heavily rusted nature of the die, as well as the strain experienced by the flan during striking. Regardless, this offering still allows for a full appreciation of its carefully executed artistry, with even the finer points of the design expressing strong definition despite light wear. Noteworthy as one of the few occasions collectors will have to obtain an example of this issue, and as such, an opportunity not to be missed.

Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000



Ornate Ferdinand III 10 Ducat

30136 Ferdinand III gold 10 Ducat 1638-(q) MS60 NGC, Prague mint, KM429, Fr-46a (prev. Fr-213), cf. Horský-1967 (5 Ducat), Donebauer-2354 (same), Herinek-29, Dietiker-835. 34.57gm. Jakob Wernhard Wolker as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM420). A charming gold multiple produced for only three years, featuring the bareheaded bust of Ferdinand, struck to careful precision across the raised features. Veritably Mint State, though a light scattering of contact is observed throughout. Even so, to say that Bohemian 10 Ducats of this type occur with any regularity, especially without serious edge damage caused by mounting or outright repair work—if they become available at all—would be a disservice to the current piece. For reference, neither the Horský nor the Donebauer collections contained an example. Additionally, a survey of recent auction records reveal fewer than 5 representatives of this date, the most recent of which sold at auction in May 2017 for 110,000 CHF. For comparison, a 1640-dated specimen certified AU Details (Edge Filing) by NGC achieved \$72,000 in our January 2020 NYINC sale, and the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* records a similar level of rarity across all three dates for the issue.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 89 (October 2003, Lot 171)
Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



Exceptionally Choice Biblical Medal in Gold

30137 "Jacob's Dream" gold Medal of 10-1/2 Ducats 1639 MS63 NGC, Lanna-1377 var. (in silver), Löbbecke-487 var. (same), Madai-7230 var. (same), Montenuovo-Unl., cf. Katz-299 (slightly different design and date), Goppel-26 (same). 37.76gm. Perhaps one of the most beautiful medals in this collection, and a type whose imagery effortlessly invites appreciation. Depicting the jugate portraits of Jacob, wearing a pointed cap, and his wife Rachel on the obverse, the reverse contains a rendition of Jacob's dream of a ladder reaching into heaven as described in Genesis 28:10-19. The execution of this piece seems to far outrank any of the already scant silver pieces that have come to auction, the strength of the reliefs likely owing to a double-strike, most observable in the obverse legends.

Evidently unrecorded in gold, this type has been variously attributed to both Germany and Bohemia under Habsburg rule, the latter placement seemingly more appropriate, as the primary motifs closely follow the example listed in the Goppel catalog under the products of "the medal workshop of the Milicz Family," Wolf Milicz having been an engraver in Joachimsthal c. 1539-1545. Interestingly, the reverse scene is quite close to a wood-cut used in the original Luther Bibles, though with an uncertain cityscape in the background.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 316)
Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



BOLIVIA



30138 Charles IV gold 8 Escudos 1807 PTS-PJ AU Details (Obverse Spot Removed) NGC, Potosi mint, KM81, Fr-14, Onza-1107. Displaying evidence of spot removals in the field to the right of the portrait, nonetheless quite attractive, bordering on uncirculated and decorated with swaths of reddish coppery tone.

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

BRAZIL



30139 Republic gold “Revolution” 35 Gramos (50 Bolivianos) 1952-(a) MS63 NGC, Paris mint, KM-X13. Struck in a mintage of only 2,857 in commemoration of the 1952 Revolution, and thus the lowest mintage issue in the commemorative series, with other type mintages ranging from 7,142 to 79,000. Lustrous and choice, only a minute scratch crossing from the left obverse field into Villarroel’s bust noted for accuracy. AGW 1.1256 oz.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000



30140 Maria I gold 6400 Reis 1794-R UNC Details (Obverse Damage) NGC, Rio de Janeiro mint, KM226.1, LMB-532. Brightly lustrous and uncirculated, with isolated patches of hairlines in the obverse fields resulting in the noted Details designation. Slightly soft in its strike, though decorated in a delicate amber patina that adds to the originality of this Mint State selection. AGW 0.4229 oz.
Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



CHILE





An Extremely Rare Type B Example of the Famed Coquimbo Peso

30141 Republic “Volcano” Peso 1828 COQUIMBO-TH AU55 NGC, Coquimbo mint, KM88 (Rare), cf. MC-pg. 51 (there, Type A), Elizondo-98, Jara Moreno-pg. 37, Fig. 12 and pg. 49, 2 (this coin). Type B (“Crude” type). By Teodoro Hagen. Gregorio Cordovez as mintmaster. One of the most storied rarities in the entirety of the Chilean series, and respectively, a type that has proven the target of nearly all major collectors of Latin American coinage. Designed in a style that seems to blow-past the famed, and much more ubiquitous, “Volcano” pesos of Santiago, despite being designated as the “crude” type for its hand-manufacture, the present coin offers utterly few grounds for complaint, its surfaces lustrous and backlit with a champagne glow, while the lettering, all hand-cut, is strikingly elegant and sharp.

Already a prominent source of gold and silver owing to the mines located in its vicinity, Coquimbo was situated far enough from the mint in Santiago to make the transportation of both men and metal between the two locales difficult and inconvenient. As a consequence, by government decree in September 1827, a mint was established at Coquimbo to be managed under prominent local citizen Gregorio Cordovez. While he was formally authorized to obtain the minting supplies he required from the mint in Santiago, the superintendent there, J. S. Portales, was only able to provide him with defective equipment, and no official dies were forthcoming; Cordovez even had to buy blank dies from a local mining company. Using his own skill, Teodoro Hagen then engraved a set dies from which 20 trials were produced for approval from Santiago, all of which were subsequently melted. On November 18th, Cordovez sent a second trial issue to Santiago, struck from modified dies from the first trial which had been reengraved by Hagen to remove the faults. These again, however, failed to pass inspections, with the outbreak of revolution in 1829 resulting in the definitive closure of the mint by November 1830.

While it is difficult to pin down exact dates, sometime in the period from 1828 to 1829 a transition occurred at Coquimbo, whereby a series of pieces were produced from professionally made hubs and punches, resulting in the well-known distinction between the early “crude” hand-made issues and these later “fine” products. Although the later productions have historically received greater praise for their sharp and uniform designs—with the lack of proper research into archival documents until Jara Moreno’s study, published in 2001, leading some to question whether the “crude” pieces were even contemporary—it is in fact the earlier types that represent the rarest collectible coins of this short-lived series. Whereas approximately 11-12 examples of the fine issue are known (two of which reside in the institutional collections of the British Museum and Banco de Chile), Jara Moreno cites a mere 5 of the early crude type, which we can expand as follows:

- 1) **Almanzar’s** (December 1976, lot 387) [cover lot]. (Jara Moreno-pg. 49, 1) = KM88 Plate Coin.
- 2) **The Paramount specimen (this coin)**. Leu Numismatik Auction 89 (October 2003, Lot 440); Adriana Garcia Burr Collection; A. Eidelstein Collection (Henry Christensen 1966, Lot 4074) (Jara Moreno-pg. 49, 2)
- 3) **The Elizondo-98 Plate Coin**. (Jara Moreno-pg. 50, 3)
- 4) **Private Chilean Collection**. Purchased from the Ross Collection in 1995; Luis Ross Collection. (Jara Moreno-pg. 50, 5)
- 5) **The R. E. Collection specimen**. (Jara Moreno-pg. 50, 5)
- 6) **The Museo Historico de Chile (Banco Central de Chile Collection) specimen**. Arrieta Cañas Collection. (Jara Moreno-pg. 50, 6)

Of the 3 examples we have sold, we have never handled a representative of this type. Even more intriguing, sales records over the past 20 years reveal that no other examples have been available, aside from this specimen. An absolutely incredible offering that will easily be the highlight of its next collection.
Estimate: \$15,000-\$25,000



30142 Republic gold 8 Escudos 1832 So-I MS62 NGC, Santiago mint, KM84, Fr-33, Onza-1625. Of very scarce quality for this imagery-laden type, displaying a volcano and mountains under a beaming sun over the obverse and two Chilean flags intersecting a pillar on the reverse. A sharp strike brings these features to their fullest intended expression, a sheen of aurous luster igniting the surfaces upon rotation and confirming the Mint State designation, while only shallow signs of handling keep the specimen from further heights of certification. Only a single example ranks finer in NGC's listed census (with none exceeding the AU58 level by PCGS), the Eliasberg specimen, certifying MS64, apparently omitted. For reference, we note that the more highly certified MS63+ example sold in January of this year for a hammer price of \$38,000.

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000

30143 Republic gold 8 Escudos 1835 So-IJ MS63 NGC, Santiago mint, KM93, Fr-37, Onza-1630. A pleasing example of this popular "Hand on Book" type, boldly struck and featuring watery, gem-like luster over wholesome old-gold surfaces. Rare in this choice state of preservation, and tied as finest certified by NGC.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



30144 Republic gold 8 Escudos 1836 So-IJ MS61 NGC, Santiago mint, KM93, Fr-37, Onza-1631. Hand on Book type. Blessed with a fetching tangerine-gold tone that uniformly blankets the fields, lending a strong aesthetic allure to this fully Mint State example. Slightly soft in the centers, a common trait for this type that is easily rendered irrelevant by a handsome display of luster and color.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000

30145 Republic gold 8 Escudos 1842 So-IJ MS62 NGC, Santiago mint, KM104.1, Fr-41, Onza-1641. A difficult issue in a Mint State condition, with only a handful of such examples certified to date. Copper-red tone lines the margins, framing a scintillating brilliance that graces the entirety of the fields. Only a single specimen certifies finer—an MS63 representative certified by NGC, which we previously sold in January of 2014 for an all-in price of \$12,925.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000



COLOMBIA



30146 Estados Unidos gold 20 Pesos 1871-BOGOTA MS62+ NGC, Bogota mint, KM142.1, Fr-99, Restrepo-336. An exceptionally scarce date within the series, with a mintage of only 1,641 pieces. Bordering on choice and highly original in appearance, with fresh luster playing over the surfaces beneath a wholesome marigold patina. Currently the finest certified by NGC, and the sole example in Mint State.
Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000

CROATIA



30147 Zara. French Occupation Siege 18 Francs 40 Centimes (4 Onces) 1813 AU58 NGC, KM4, Dav-47, Herinek-1214, CNI-Vic.1. 119.31gm. Variety with small central punch (c. 17mm). An instantly recognizable type produced during the joint British-Austrian siege of Napoleonic-held Zara, though lesser-seen in this largest obsidional denomination. Often found in relatively poor states of preservation due to its emergency issuance, this selection stands as a true conditional outlier, ranking a full five points above the next finest at NGC. It also far exceeds the examples plated in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, Herinek, and the *Corpus Nummorum Italicorum*, both in terms of overall eye appeal and preservation. The stamps on both sides appear carefully applied and deeply impressed, endowed with a subtle olive patina, while the open expanses of the fields reveal a few stray marks, hardly any of which distract the eye.

Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000

CZECHOSLOVAKIA



30148 Republic gold 10 Dukatu 1929 MS64 NGC, KM14, Fr-4. The first date in the series and one of only 1,564 struck. Generally quite clean in appearance for the assigned grade, with only minute wisps detectable over otherwise clear and lustrous surfaces. A popular type that consistently sees amplified demand when encountered so appealing.

Ex. Rauch Auction 71 (April 2003, Lot 2252)
Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



30149 Republic gold 10 Dukatu 1933 MS63 NGC, KM14, Fr-4. Produced by a formidable strike that renders all design features crisp and sharply outlined against the surrounding devices, this flashy 10 Dukatu represents a highly collectible example of the type, and one which has only grown in popularity in the last several years. A resounding brilliance cascades across the planchet, buttressing the choice Mint State grade assigned by NGC. One of only 1,780 struck.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



Elite Gem “Kremnica Mines” 10 Dukaten

30150 Republic gold “Kremnica Mines” 10 Dukaten 1934 MS66 NGC, Kremnitz mint, KM-XM21, Fr-13. The probability that an even finer representative of this rare type would appear at auction—just months after we sold an exceptional example certified MS65 in our January NY-INC sale—seemed highly inconceivable, and yet, just this event has now occurred. This rare commemorative was struck to celebrate the reopening of the Kremnica mines, with total production amounting to a mere 68 examples. A survey of NGC’s census, if one extrapolates to the entire survivorship, indicates that this offering must be one of the very finest extant. Indeed, only a single MS68 certifies above this level, and with the stellar \$69,000 price tag achieved by January’s lower-graded example, we can only anticipate the enthusiasm with which this elite representative will be met. Perfectly struck, with glassy golden luster sweeping across the fields, undiminished by handling or contact, this elite gem will doubtlessly find inclusion in only the highest-tier type collection.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000

DANISH WEST INDIES



30151 Danish Colony. Christian IX gold 10 Daler (50 Francs) 1904-(h) MS63 NGC, Copenhagen mint, KM73, Fr-2, Sieg-32. Representing the largest gold denomination issued during Danish rule of the islands of Saint Thomas, Saint John, Saint Croix, and Water Island. The Danish government would eventually sell these islands to the United States in 1917, partly due to fears of a takeover by Germany during the First World War. This choice example survives as an artifact of an age where even lesser European powers held far-flung colonies throughout the world, ranking as a highly collectible representative for its strong conditional preservation, with gleaming luster that rolls across the fields upon rotation and a firm strike resulting in clear detailing throughout.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



DENMARK





An Incredibly Historic Relic from the Breaking of the Swedish Siege of Copenhagen

30152 Frederick III gold “Ebenezer” 5 Ducat (1/2 Portugalöser) 1659 AU Details (Reverse Scratched) NGC, Copenhagen mint, KM-Unl., Fr-124 (Rare), Schou-4, Hede-98, Sieg-Unl., Aagaard-74.1. 17.19gm. Arguably among the most famous designs of the whole Danish series, and one which takes on an entirely new level of rarity when procured in gold. Struck in commemoration of the breaking of the Swedish Siege of Copenhagen on 11 February 1659, the motifs employed on this type could hardly make more evident the Danes’ belief (or at least their wish to proclaim publicly) that their salvation had come from the hand of God (Manus dei) alone—Soli Deo Gloria, “To God, alone, be the glory”—rather than from the aid of the Dutch relief force. The forcefulness of this message is all the more obvious through the iconic inscription on the reverse: Ebenezer, juxtaposing Frederick III’s monogram with a stone, and drawing on the imagery of the Old Testament, where (in 1 Samuel 7:12), Samuel had erected a “stone of help” between Mizpah and Shen to commemorate the Lord’s aid and to serve as a reminder to the nation of Israel that God had protected and led them to victory.

Already a challenging issue in silver, where finding examples free of even mild circulation is a far-cry (only 2 Mint State Kroner presently certified), we are aware of only one gold specimen in this weight having appeared on auction in recent years, a battered and bent piece that still brought the equivalent of \$35,000 in November 2020. The type is altogether missing from the Vogel, Wilmersdörffer, Hauberg, and Hede collections, and while the Zinck Collection contained a representative, it was never brought to auction. Aagaard records only 9 total examples of this 5 Ducat subtype (Hede-98) known, which, together with the 2 known of Hede-100, comprises eleven 1659 5 Ducats, of which two are in public collections and two in the “semi-public” collection of L. E. Bruun (see also Hede’s October 1925 sale of Bruun’s collection, lot 2495). It should then come as no exaggeration to say that locating such a selection, even with the noted scratches on the obverse (reverse as holdered) represents a typically unfound opportunity, with the strike and presentation otherwise indicating an emission that is very much on the upper end of its almost uncirculated status.

Though the Swedish king, Carl X Gustav, had achieved a crushing victory against the Danes during his February 1658 invasion of the kingdom as part of the Northern Wars, leading to the Treaty of Roskilde that gave Sweden huge territorial gains, he nonetheless resolved to wipe his rival from the map of Europe. In the ensuing attack, the Swedish armies, which had never left Denmark after the peace treaty was concluded, laid siege to Copenhagen. After withstanding the siege for 6 months, the Danes were able to make use of the Swedes’ impatience, aided by spy intel and the help of 600 Dutch marines, and ambushed the Swedish army during their hastily planned assault of Christianhavn and Slotsholmen, resulting in a crushing Swedish defeat that led to long-term peace between Denmark, Sweden, and Norway.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



ECUADOR



30153 Republic gold 8 Escudos 1845 QUITO-MV MS62+ NGC, Quito mint, KM30, Fr-7, Onza-1764 (Very Rare). Flagpoles below arms variety. A great rarity of the Latin American series, and a stellar example thereof in this exemplary near-choice condition. Populations at both NGC and PCGS reveal that circulated condition remains the “norm” for the type, which is itself anything but normal, with a total of only 9 examples certified to date between the two certification services combined. Of these, the present selection is the only one that remains uncirculated. The implied quality is immediately evident in hand, a result of a formidable combination of sharply struck detail and flaring luster. The central motifs, including Bolívar’s bust, are clearly contoured, framed by crisp legends in the outer registers. A quick rotation reveals scintillating brilliance that rolls across the fields, conveying an intentional care in preservation beyond anything that could be reasonably expected for this elusive issue. With its rich mint luminosity, clear designs, and only minor wisps of handling that establish the assigned grade, a meaningfully finer example is indeed hard to imagine.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000

EGYPT



30154 Fuad I gold Proof 500 Piastres AH 1351 (1932) PR66 NGC, London mint, KM355, Fr-31. The “finest certified” designation of this superb specimen will come of no surprise upon in-hand examination, the brilliant depth of the surfaces neither lessened by mistreatment nor regular handling. Truly, mirror reflectivity and resounding mint flash are all that meet the viewer as light rolls unimpeded across the surfaces, simultaneously confirming the laudable gem designation and leaving little doubt as to the superior condition of this specimen as compared to other surviving examples. Tied with only a single other NGC-graded specimen at this highest level of certification across a current total of 67 seen by that grading service to date, with no others encountered by PCGS matching the esteemed quality of this piece.

Estimate: \$9,000-\$12,000



30155 Fuad I gold Proof 500 Piastres AH 1351 (1932) PR65 NGC, London mint, KM355, Fr-31. A well-kept conditional survivor of the type representing one of the finest certified examples to date. According to the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, Mint records did not indicate any Proof strikings for this date; however, those that were minted early in the process contain the hallmarks of a Proof. Consistently gem in preservation, with fields carrying mirror resplendence and holding devices struck to complete expression of detail.
Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000

30156 Farouk gold Proof "Royal Wedding" 500 Piastres AH 1357 (1938) PR65 NGC, London mint, KM373, Fr-110. Commemorating the royal wedding of King Farouk to Queen Farida. Lightly toned over champagne-tinged surfaces revealing only minute hairline wisps and not a single instance of larger contact or distraction. Rotation under light unleashes an abundance of mint flash, beckoning closer examination. Scarce and highly collectible in this gem quality.
Estimate: \$4,000-\$5,000



FRANCE



30157 Arab Republic gold “Revolution Anniversary” 5 Pounds AH 1374 (1955) MS63 NGC, KM388, Fr-39. Struck on the third anniversary of the Egyptian Revolution. Displaying bold design features laid upon sunflower gold surfaces that gleam with luster. Wholly choice and very nearly Prooflike in appearance.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$2,500



30158 Louis XIII gold Louis d'Or 1640-A MS62 NGC, Paris mint, KM105, Fr-410, Gad-58. The first year of this short-lived “Short Curl” type, which began issuance as part of an endeavor to supplant hammered coinage with modern milled issues. Gently lustrous, with hearty coppery-golden tone and very little in the way of distracting marks.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 293 (October 2002, Lot 4)

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30159 Louis XIII gold 2 Louis d'Or 1640-A UNC Details (Obverse Repaired) NGC, Paris mint, KM108, Fr-409, Gad-59, Dup-1297. "IMP" in reverse legends. An example of obvious Mint State quality, with luster that brightens the fields and attractive honey-gold color throughout. Despite the Details assignment, we are unable to determine the cause for the label of "Repaired." Though there is some central weakness to the design over both sides that may have elicited such a judgement, this would seem to be an issue of strike, as the whole of the surfaces appear as-made. Overall, a desirable first year of issue within the milled gold series under engraver Jean Warin.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



Minimally Circulated Quadruple Louis d'Or

30160 Louis XIII gold 4 Louis d'Or 1640-A AU Details (Mount Removed) NGC, Paris mint, KM111, Fr-408, Gad-60 (R5), Ciani-1610, Dup-1296. 26.83gm. Of astonishing preservation for this incredibly rare Quatre Louis d'or type, of which perhaps only seven are thought to exist today. Known as a "Homage-Piece," the large gold pieces of this type were struck for presentation to the King by the engraver Jean Warin as a preview before the adoption of a new monetary system, and were often used as currency for the King's table games. The present specimen vastly exceeds the quality of the other three examples we could locate adequate images of, including the Gadoury plate coin, which display significantly more wear than is seen here. In fact, circulation wear is absolutely minimal, the features retaining exquisite highpoint detail, most markedly portrayed in Louis' hair curls and the intricate reverse crowns, while the legends remain consistently sharp throughout the obverse and reverse alike. All the while, a lustrous gleam resides over the fields, confirming a decidedly near-Mint preservation. Only faint traces of a prior mount, likely an artifact traceable to an individual of some importance due to the nature of the piece, serves as the only (insignificant) flaw to what is by all accounts a survivor of prodigious numismatic importance.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Finest Certified 8 Louis d'Or of Louis XIII

30161 Louis XIII gold 8 Louis d'Or 1640-A MS61 NGC, Paris mint, KM112, Fr-407, Gad-61 (R5), Ciani-1608, Dup-1295. 53.55gm. Simply astonishing, and a coin that makes it fully evident why these special gold multiples were known as “homage” pieces. Certainly a fitting testament to engraver Jean Warin’s skill, to locate any gold coin of this age and size in uncirculated condition is a feat in-and-of-itself. One of only four specimens currently certified across NGC and PCGS combined, the present selection ranks as the single finest of just two Mint State-graded examples. Free of cleaning, tooling, or evidence of a mount removal, both faces of the piece find a full display of detail, doubling essentially absent, while the few adjustment marks that are present on reverse remain comparatively light and unobtrusive; all this is complemented by an engaging orange and honey-gold tone. While we have previously offered representatives of the 4 and 10 Louis d’or à la tête laurée, this is the first piece of this size we have handled—the most recent selection that came to auction, a MS60, having brought the equivalent of \$243,792 in a July 2018 sale. Only the third specimen to become available in recent decades according to our research, and a coin which demands in-hand inspection to be fully appreciated.

Ex. Jean Vinchon Numismatique (October 2002, Lot 221)
Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



The Famed 10 Louis d'Or - A Royal Gambling Piece and the Largest Denomination Struck in France

30162 Louis XIII gold Early Restrike 10 Louis d'Or 1640-A MS61 NGC, Paris mint, cf. KM115, Fr-405 (Original; same dies), Gad-63 (R5; same), Ciani-1606-1607 (this type on the cover), Dup-1293. 67.11gm. An impressive coin and a true testament to the opulence of mid-17th century France. The largest denomination ever produced in the kingdom, specimens such as this were hardly intended for common circulation, but rather would have been used as royal gambling pieces, meant to signify one's winnings and the ability to push even more across the table. While the question of restrikes has long been a subject of contention within this series, it seems that, based on the discussion concerning the Lawrence Adams specimen that we resold in January 2018 (Auction #3061, Lot 32199), this might be related to the differing purities of the representatives. In regards to that specific example, Sylvia Hurter suggested that it had been produced two centuries later during the reign of Napoleon III. The *Standard Catalog of World Coins* notes that such restrikes were produced around 1950, though we suspect that may well be an error for c. 1850. That said, the present offering notably carries the same diagnostic die crack that extends from the King's shoulder up to his cheek as is seen on the plate coins in both Friedberg and Gadoury, and it is noticeably free of any die rust, suggesting that original dies were used to produce this selection, and all but confirming that a restrike two to three centuries afterward is highly unlikely.

Estimate: \$100,000-\$150,000



Magnificent Gold Essai of Louis XIII and Louis XIV

30163 Louis XIV gold Essai “Two Effigies” Ecu ND (c. 1643) MS62 NGC, Paris mint, Ciani-1945, Gad-Unl.. 39mm. 32.30gm. Plain edge. By Jean Warin. An extremely rare Essai type featuring the laureate effigies of both Louis XIII and Louis XIV. Produced in the style of the portrait engravings used by Warin on coinage of the former ruler beginning in 1640, and of the latter beginning in 1643, when following the death of his father, Louis XIV ascended to the throne at the age of four. Here the young Sun King is rendered in elegant detail opposite his father; while the slightly smaller portrait size serves to highlight the King's youth, the similarities in style and presentation seen upon both faces may be viewed as an indication that he is nonetheless deserving of the same degree of adoration and respect.

It may be inferred that this issue was designed to commemorate the transfer of power from Louis XIII to his son, and perhaps was issued shortly after the death of the former, or perhaps even shortly prior: the King, finding himself sickly and sensing that death was imminent, decided to put his affairs in order in the spring of 1643, decreeing that upon his passing a regency council would rule on his son's behalf. Examples of this type are also known in silver and bronze, but this is the only specimen in gold that we can trace, and it is rumored to be one of only two known.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



30164 Louis XIV Quadruple Piefort Ecu 1644-A AU53 NGC, Paris mint, KM-P63, Gad-201 (R5), Ciani-1843. 109.76gm. Edge: PONDERE SANCTVARI. A highly gratifying representative of this rare and desirable piefort. Struck in quadruple weight, this massive emission weighs in at nearly 110 grams. The surfaces are graced with an old-world cabinet tone that blends olive and steel coloration to engender a clear sense of originality and historical preservation. Further inspection reveals underlying luster that creates a glossy and semi-iridescent appeal, which, in conjunction with the overlying patina, results in a delightful expression of character. An outstanding specimen whose rarity is noted as "R5" in Gadoury, and one certain to elicit an abundance of interest among collectors.
Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



30165 Louis XIV gold Louis d'Or 1650-F UNC Details (Obverse Scratched) NGC, Angers mint, KM157.7, Fr-418, Gad-245, Ciani-1787. Hailing from the obscure and relatively short-lived mint of Angers, which operated for only approximately 50 years before ceasing operations in 1661, this admirable representative displays a fully Mint State level of preservation. Well-struck with only a hint of rub over Louis' cheek, the devices otherwise sharp and held within fields expressing shimmering mint luster at every turn, coupled with a faint amber tone residing over the surfaces with fitting grace and visual splendor.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 293 (October 2002, Lot 23)
Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



30166 Louis XIV gold Louis d'Or 1664-A MS66+ NGC, Paris mint, KM200.1, Fr-421, Gad-246, Ciani-1789. Simply superb as a representative of the "Juvenile bust" type issued from 1658-1672, and indeed near the pinnacle of survivability within the Louis XIV gold series as a whole. Struck from recently polished dies, with essentially no surface marks to be seen and eye-catching luster that blends satin and semi-Prooflike elements in a manner that can only be described as glamorous. Truly an exceptional piece, and worthy of a strong bid.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 293 (October 2003, Lot 25)
Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000

30167 Louis XIV gold Louis d'Or 1690-D MS64 NGC, Lyon mint, KM278.3, Fr-429, Gad-250. A superb representative of this scarce Lyon issue, well-rounded and aglow with soft mint luster, and hints of antique tone that pervade the recesses.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 293 (October 2002, Lot 38)
Estimate: \$2,000-\$2,500



Proof Louis XV Ecu of "Royal" Quality

30168 Louis XV Proof Ecu 1740-A PR65+ NGC, Paris mint, KM512.1, Dav-1331, Gad-322, Sobin-Unl. A striking high-end example of this scarce Proof issue, the first in the series spanning from 1740 to 1774, featuring the beautifully coiffed, long-haired portrait of Louis XV. A display of needle-sharp detailing leaves no doubt as to the offering's special production, and the sheer precision of the strike renders the issue well beyond the expected quality displayed by the standard Ecu emissions of Louis' reign. Very nearly devoid of handling and decidedly gem in presentation, with argent luster that rolls across the fields upon rotation to reveal a potent undercurrent of lilac and gold iridescence.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



Medallic Gold Proof Ecu of Louis XV

30169 Louis XV gold Proof Pattern Ecu 1740-A PR62 NGC, Paris mint, KM-Pn15, Dav-1331, Gad-322 (R5), Ciani-2124, Dup-Unl. 49.15gm. By Joseph Charles Roettier, signed on truncation. Bust of Louis XV left / Crowned arms in wreath with date and mintmark. An exceptional and fleeting production in gold, thought to number between only 5-10 examples extant. Perceptibly medallic in composition, a wide rim rises well above the lower-lying fields to immediately convey a sense of quality and intentional production. Watery luster bathes the central regions, containing a crisp and high-relief portrait of the King, whose hair curls and facial features showcase a striking degree of definition. The reverse, similarly, contains not a hint of weakness; the designs rise with towering clarity, neither a hint of rub nor friction existing to reduce their visual impact. Fine grade-defining wisps are observable across the fields, though in no way diminish the palpable near-choice quality exhibited by this exquisite specimen. Perhaps somewhat impressively, this is the second 1740 gold Ecu that we have encountered to date, the first certifying "SP61" by PCGS and hammering for \$90,000 in our August 2018 ANA Platinum Night Auction.

Estimate: \$80,000-\$100,000



30170 Louis XVI gold Louis d'Or 1786-T MS66 NGC, Nantes mint, KM591.14, Fr-475, Gad-361. A superior gem marked by stunning mint brilliance that envelopes the raised design features, bathing the planchet in a degree of profound golden luminosity that can only accompany superior preservation. Well-struck for the type, with very little of the weakness that plagues this series observed, and an absolutely minimal level of adjustment to the central devices. Tied for the finest certified to date across both NGC and PCGS combined.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 293 (October 2002, Lot 151)

Estimate: \$2,000-\$2,500



Magnificent Gold Essai Ecu of Louis XVI

30171 Louis XVI gold Essai Ecu “de Calonne” 1786-A UNC Details (Scratches) NGC, Paris mint, KM-Unl., VG-92 (not illustrated, though possibly this coin), Ciani-2204 (same). 47.75gm. By Jean-Pierre Droz. Edge: DOM[INE] [SALV]UM F[AC] R[EGEM] (and | through fleur after REGEM), impressed from six-part collar. The so-called “de Calonne” Essai type, named after the Controller-General of Finances in this period, Charles Alexandre de Calonne. Though sometimes encountered in silver, we have been unable to locate another example struck in gold, confirming that this is either unique (as supposed in the original Farouk catalog), or one of only a few extant as such. Clearly struck as a Proof, the fields are imbued with a glasslike reflectivity, readily apparent beneath only mild handling. Shallow, scattered scratches result in the technical grade assigned, but in no way affect the overall desirability of this rare offering.

Often considered to be Droz’s absolute masterpiece, the Ecu de Calonne can be credited with initiating his recognition by English manufacturer Matthew Boulton, who sought the Swiss engraver’s help in improving the quality of his own coins and medals. The nature of this relationship, as well as the Ecu de Calonne’s position in it, is perhaps best related by a 1988 British Numismatic Journal article from Richard Margolis (entitled “Matthew Boulton’s French Ventures of 1791 and 1792; Tokens for the Monneron Frères of Paris and Isle de France”), where he writes: “In December 1786, accompanied by James Watt, Boulton traveled to France, primarily on steam engine business. In Paris, the partners met Jean-Pierre Droz, a Swiss engraver and technician, and Boulton became enormously impressed by Droz’s mechanical and engraving skills, so evident in his Pattern six livres of Louis XVI, familiarly known as the écu de Calonne, a handsome piece, with its SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTUM [sic] lettered edge applied at the moment of striking by means of a six-segmented collar” (pg. 102).

While those familiar with the history of the famous collection of King Farouk of Egypt will be well-aware that he had commissioned many off-metal Patterns especially for himself, such does not seem to be the case here. Not only are records of a gold off-metal striking provided by Guilleaume and Ciani, but the coin at hand also presents the six-part collar typically associated with original strikings (restrikes occur with plain edges and collars in as few as three parts). As such, it seems to us that it can only be regarded as a very prestigious product of the time. According to our research, an example in gold was missing from Delombardy’s 1848 catalog of M. Rignault’s collection, with the Bibliothèque nationale de France and other museums in Paris apparently also not containing a specimen.

Ex. Farouk Collection (Sotheby’s February 1954, Lot 496)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Superb and Exceptionally Rare Consular Gold Off-Metal 5 Francs

30172 "Republic" gold Proof Off-Metal Essai 5 Francs L'An X (1801/1802)-A PR62 Cameo NGC, Paris mint, cf. KM639.1 (there in silver, lettered edge), Gad-563a, Maz-562 var. (R6, there, in lettered edge), cf. VG-970 (same). 41.86gm. Plain edge. By Augustin Dupré. A fantastically rare trial emission struck in gold on a plain-edged flan, and thus a variety of the gold issue noted in Mazard and Guilloteau, both of which catalog the type with a lettered edge. Against all odds, this offering represents the second gold trial of the issue that we have sold, though the first of the possibly unique plain edge variety, and this observation is undoubtedly worth a closer comparison between the two. Most importantly, the strike on this piece is noticeably more medallionic, producing sharp highpoint detail across every feature, a characteristic that was lacking on the prior example, which displayed isolated instances of striking softness, particularly to the reverse wreath. Because of this specimen's sharpness, even rims, semi-mirrored surfaces, and subtle device frosting, it has justifiably received a Proof Cameo designation by NGC, representing the only such example certified to date.

The rarity and historical importance of this issue cannot be overstated. The type was produced squarely in the middle of the Consular period that separated the early Republic and the Empire under Napoleon, a turbulent time in French history that followed two major coalitions against France and preceded a further five, with the country undergoing rapid change under the administration of Napoleon Bonaparte as First Consul of France. Now judged primarily by his military actions, including his disastrous invasion of Russia in 1812, Napoleon was widely seen as a reformer and agent of positive change during this period. Among these changes was a complete overhaul of the nation's coinage, including introductions of new 20 and 40 Franc denominations in gold. Accordingly, a trial piece such as this undoubtedly represents not only an integral part of this rapid change, but also a historical context filled with both peril and hope for a more stable future (though this was ultimately not to be, as subsequent years during the imperial period would illustrate). The only comparable specimen we could locate was sold in a European auction in February of 2016 for a hammer price of 170,000 Euros. Though not certified, that example was noted as being "of the greatest rarity" and the only known copy in private hands. Stupendously rare both as an example of this off-metal strike and as an additionally elusive variant thereof, this spectacular coin represents the apex of desirability for collectors passionate about the evolving coinage of this fascinating era.

Ex. Numismatica Genvensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 407)
Estimate: \$80,000-\$120,000



30173 Napoleon silver Medallion Essai 5 Francs L'An XII (1803/1804) MS61 NGC, Paris mint, Maz-604 (R3), VG-1259, Ciani-634. 26.5gm. Plain edge. By Nicolas-Guy-Antoine Brenet and Jean-Baptiste-Barthélemy Dupeyrat. Laureate bust left, NAPOLÉON LE GRAND., signature below / In six lines of text, MOYEN DE MULTIPLIER LES CARRÉS PAR DUPEYRAT PRÉSENTÉ À L'AD. MONNAIES, date below. An engaging early Essai type that represents the union of the die-making processes implemented by Dupeyrat and the expert engraving work by Brenet, who was already at the time of this piece's striking well-known for his contributions to the Napoleonic medal series.

In 1804, Dupeyrat made several experiments at the Paris mint in attempts to accomplish greater uniformity between dies used to strike the same coinage, a more efficient means of production of the working dies, and additional improvements to the dies themselves. The inventor presented to the National Institute the details of his processes, using specimens of the present coin as a visual representation of his plan for the “multiplying” of dies. Surviving examples of the type are extremely rare, and we are unable to trace the sale of an additional specimen in the last two decades of auction records.

Ex. Farouk Collection (Sotheby's March 1954, Lot 2178 [part])

Estimate: \$3,000-\$6,000



Striking Near-Gem Gold “Paris Mint Visit” Essai

30174 Napoleon gold Proof Medallic Essai “Paris Mint Visit” 5 Francs L’An XI (1803) PR62+ NGC, Maz-629 (R5), VG-1204. Reed-edged. By Tiolier. Commemorating Napoleon’s visit to the Paris mint on the 21st of Ventose, Year XI (March 12, 1803), this laudable offering combines near-gem preservation with an elite level of numismatic rarity to culminate in an object of the highest desirability for collectors of the French, and more specifically, the Napoleonic, series. Presenting Napoleon as First Consul of France, this historically important issue represents a near-identical adoption of the obverse from the regular circulation-series 5 Francs produced in year 11, with only minute changes, such as the style and placement of the engraver’s initials below the Consul’s bust. Gold strikes of this type are of extreme scarcity, and we have only been able to locate two other examples sold within the last decade. Blessed with a mirrorlike lustrous potency and displaying minute flan cracks that hold traces of old cabinet tone, the surfaces combine immense flash with carefully-chiseled detail to yield a superb presentation. Soft touches of amber coloration only add further visual allure to this immense rarity, designated “R5” by Mazard, and only occasionally appearing at auction to tremendous and universal collector enthusiasm.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 293 (October 2002, Lot 177); Likely Farouk Collection (Sotheby’s February 1954, Lot 504), though the quality of the photographic plates makes a direct comparison difficult

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



Rare "Mint Visit" Essai Variety in Gold

30175 Napoleon gold Proof Medallion Essai "Paris Mint Visit" 5 Francs L'An XI (1803) PR61 NGC, Maz-629b var. (R4; plain edge), VG-1204 (plain edge, wide rim). Plain edge. By Tiolier. An extremely rare variant of this scarce Essai type, struck in gold, though with both a plain edge and a thick, raised rim, as compared to the examples plated in Mazard and VG, which both show rims identical to the less well-defined silver Essais of similar design. This offering represents the only example that we have seen or could locate, and it may well be unique in this particular presentation and plain-edged format. Commemorating the First Consul's visit to the Paris mint on the 21st of Ventose, Year XI (March 12, 1803), we can think of no more fitting exhibition of this historical subject than that in gold, complete with the shimmering Proof surfaces and striking detail that yields an aesthetic character wholly unlike that of the already-scarce silver commemoratives of the early Napoleonic period. A laudable coin, no doubt destined for a specialized cabinet of French coinage.
Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Restoration "Mint Visit" Gold Medallic 5 Francs

30176 Louis XVIII gold Proof Medallic "Mint Visit" 5 Francs 1817 PR64+ Cameo NGC, KM-M12d (3 Known), Maz-789 (R5), VG-2494. Incuse edge lettering. Struck in commemoration of the Duchess of Angoulême's visit to the Monnaie de Paris in the name of King Louis XVIII. The Duchess, daughter of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, survived the French Revolution to later become an important figure after the final restoration of the French monarchy in 1815, representing the King in various administrative tasks, including her visit to the mint in April of 1817. The design of this commemorative strike, produced in a lavish gold format (as compared to the more abundant silver productions of otherwise identical design) in several ways speaks to the Bourbon desire to separate themselves from Napoleonic titles and convention, with Louis now boldly proclaimed as "King of France" on the obverse, as compared to Napoleon's title as [Emperor] "of the French." The prominent use of a crown in the design similarly speaks to this contrast, serving as a clear attempt to establish a sense of legitimacy and authority tied to both past and present Bourbon rule. The *Standard Catalog of World Coins* states that only three examples are known, while other records indicate that the true number may be up to, but no more than, ten. What is certain is that the present offering is likely among the absolute finest of those that remain, if not so. Blessed with exquisite detail and certified on the cusp of gem condition, it is indeed difficult to imagine that a meaningfully finer example exists. Reflective, bright, and lacking all but trivial instances of handling, this laudable medallic issue belongs only in a world-class collection of French gold coinage.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 293 (October 2002, Lot 213); Likely Farouk Collection (Sotheby's February 1954, Lot 519), though the quality of the photographic plates makes a direct comparison difficult
Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Singular Gold 5 Francs of 1817

30177 Louis XVIII gold Off-Metal Essai 5 Francs 1817-A AU58 NGC, Paris mint, KM-Unl., cf. Gad-614 (plain edge), cf. Maz-742 (therein dated 1819), VG-Unl. By Auguste-François Michaut. Edge: DOMINE SALVUM FAC REGEM (incuse). While a variety of gold 5 Francs Essais are known from Louis's reign as part of a mint design competition between engravers Michaut, Jacques, and Gatteaux, the present piece appears unlisted in all major references as a gold striking of this precise year and edge design, and may very well be a unique striking as such. Of some comparison is an engraved piece of the same type, but dated 1820, that we offered in our Central States auction one year ago (April 2020, Lot 31061). The present piece, however, displays no such damage and is pleasantly toned, with appealing hues of marigold and teal adorning highly lustrous surfaces that exhibit only the slightest touch of wear. Altogether an exceptional piece of which there may be no apt comparable for many years to come.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



Choice Proof Gold 5 Franc Essai of Charles X

30178 Charles X gold Proof Off-Metal Essai 5 Francs 1824-A PR63 Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM-Unl., Gad-643, Maz-878 (R5), VG-2612. Incuse edge lettering. Wholly choice in quality, this fleeting issue notably omits the word "Essai," prominently featured on so many French Patterns of the wider series. However, its status as such is, without doubt, the piece struck in an opulent golden format with the stated denomination of 5 Francs. Mazard assigns the type an "R5" rating, meaning "of the greatest rarity," and indeed, a dearth of auction results fully supports this observation, as only a single example prior to this one has come to auction in the better part of the last 20 years. Full device frosting and shimmering mirror surfaces yield an impressive visual display that leaves no uncertainty as to the Proof format of the offering, with only gentle wisps of handling acting to limit the assigned grade in the absence of any larger marks or meaningful distractions.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 416)
Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Striking Ultra Cameo Proof Essai 100 Francs

30179 Charles X gold Proof Essai 100 Francs ND (1824)-A PR64 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM-Unl., Maz-886 (R5), VG-2670 (attributed to 1830). Raised edge lettering. By Tiolier. A wondrous Essai that couples the rarity of its type with the striking presentation of a Proof format to a combined effect that is the envy of the vast majority of coinage within the expansive and encompassing French series. Alternately attributed to either 1824 or 1830, what most immediately strikes the beholder of this entrancing Pattern is its captivating cameo contrast; a thick veil of golden frost embellishes the raised features, which appear satiny and eye-catching from any viewing angle, while the exacting standard of the Proof strike provides a level of expression and detail that leaves a lasting impression. If this were not enough, a subtle yet impactful honeyed tone lies gently over the surfaces, confirming the originality of the piece and further contributing to a marked eye appeal that remains unencumbered by any noteworthy instances of handling. For comparison we reference the most recent auction result that we could locate, a PR64 NGC-certified example (cameo status not described) which sold in an Asian auction for a hammer price of nearly \$130,000. Certainly, this offering is at least the equal of that coin, and it doubtlessly serves as one of the numerous highlights of the French series contained within this world-class collection.

Ex. Numismatica Genvensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 415)

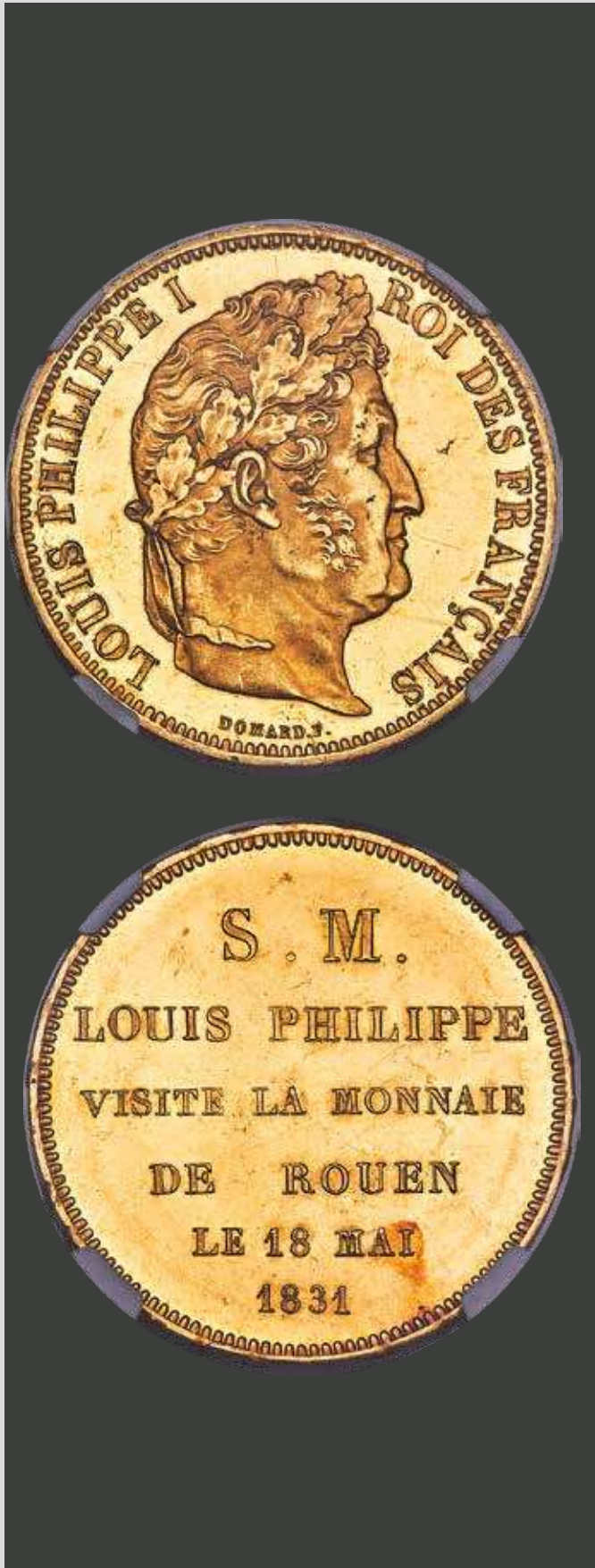
Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Louis Philippe I Off-Metal Trial Strike in Gold

30180 Louis Philippe I gold Proof Off-Metal Essai 5 Francs 1831-A PR62 Cameo NGC, Paris mint, Gad-677a, Maz-1068a (R5), VG-2820. Raised edge lettering. An inspiring gold production of the 1831 Paris 5 Franc (cf. KM745.1) whose aurous composition renders the type as one of the utmost rarity. This offering is the only one of its kind certified by NGC, with PCGS having seen only a single representative, certified "Specimen," though in an identical numerical grade. Therefore, the present example is not only one of two certified in total, but also ranks in a tied position for finest certified to date. A turn of the wrist ignites the surfaces in profound brilliance that rolls over the fields to embrace precise and well-struck features, these laden with ample golden frost and yielding a clear cameo contrast. Apart from the grade-defining hairlines, no major mentionable flaws are noted, rendering this golden rarity as one of both relative technical and true aesthetic quality.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



**Perhaps Only the Second Example
of this Mint Visit Essai to Become
Available in Over a Decade**

30181 Louis Philippe I gold Essai “Rouen Mint Visit” 5 Francs 1831 MS61 Prooflike NGC, KM-M20c (Rare), Maz-1168 (R4), cf. VG-2824 (there, in silver). By Domard F. Raised edge lettering. An exceptional Prooflike offering of this commemorative Essai type struck in gold, issued for the King’s visit to the Rouen mint on the 18th of May, 1831. Mazard refers to the issue as “Exceedingly Rare,” and indeed, the lack of auction records fully support this statement. The issue may easily be considered many leagues rarer than its silver and bronze counterparts, which appear with some frequency on auction and are easily attainable in comparison. The last example seen on auction was offered in January 2016 (Heritage Auction 3044, Lot 31201) and hailed from the estate of the famous financier J.P. Morgan, yet it appears that beyond this no others have come to market in over a decade.

Sun-gold color enlivens the surfaces of the offering at every turn, while a distinctive Prooflike brilliance illuminates features struck fully and to commendable clarity. Louis Philippe’s portrait retains ample golden frost, yielding a striking contrast between his visage and the reflective fields surrounding. A gentle turn of the wrist unleashes a wave of luster that ripples across the open expanses, which contain nothing other than fine hairline marks to cap the assigned grade designation. By all measures, a coin that ranks in the highest tier of desirability for the advanced collector, and an opportunity unlikely to be encountered again for quite some time.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 420)
Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



Choice Essai Louis Philippe I 100 Francs

30182 Louis Philippe I gold Proof Essai 100 Francs ND (1831) PR63 Cameo NGC, KM-Unl., Maz-1057a (R5), VG-2747. Raised edge lettering. An exceptional representative of this inordinately rare 100 Franc Essai type, impressively preserved in a choice technical state. The only example certified by NGC to date, this specimen combines pleasantly frosted features with a deeply mirrored shimmer in the fields to achieve a clear cameo contrast discernible from every angle of inspection. The addition of warm copper-gold tone adds further character and a sense of age to this formidable offering. We note that this selection represents the first of its type that we have encountered to date, with only a handful having come to market in the last two decades. A coin certain to add considerable prestige to whichever collection it ultimately enters.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 418)

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Exceptional Piefort Gold Essai of Pretender Henri V

30183 Henri V Pretender gold Proof Piefort Off-Metal Essai 5 Francs 1832 PR64 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM-X35g (Only a few specimens known), Maz-906c (R5), VG-Unl. 71.91gm. Plain edge. Struck in the name of Henri, pretender to the French throne and disputed King of France from August 2 to August 9, 1830. Henri V, the Duke of Bordeaux, was the son of Charles Ferdinand, the Duke of Berry, himself the younger son of Charles X of France. Charles abdicated the throne as the result of the July Revolution of 1830, bypassing the succession to his son in favor of his grandson, Henri. Henri's contested reign lasted only a single week before the National Assembly would ultimately declare Louis Philippe I as the rightful King of France, yet Patterns bearing the image of the young contested ruler survive to the present, as is exemplified by the present piece. All gold Patterns of his "reign" remain exceedingly scarce, but this piefort issue exists on an entirely different level than even those. While Mazard assigns a rating of "R5" for the type, which corresponds to, "of the greatest rarity," the *Unusual World Coins* catalog notes, "only a few specimens known." This is the first such example we have seen, and indeed, given the type's tremendous rarity, it may well remain the only one for many years to come.

The heavier weight standard of the specimen is immediately felt in hand, its heft lending a considerable aura of importance to this elusive emission, which exceeds itself by the splendor of its near-gem condition. Every minute detail in Henri's uniform and sensitively rendered features stand in stark contrast to the surrounding elements, not a hint of weakness traceable across either the obverse or the reverse designs. A bold, flat rim provides a fitting visual frame to these details, serving as a border to golden fields that flash effortlessly upon rotation. Tinges of orange-gold tone add a touch of aesthetic completeness to what is, by all measures, a coin of the utmost importance and desirability within the French numismatic series.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Phenomenal Off-Metal Gold 5 Francs

30184 Republic gold Off-Metal Essai “Hercules” 5 Francs 1848-A MS62+ NGC, Paris mint, cf. KM756.1 (in silver), Gad-683, Maz-1211 (R5), VG-Unl. 32.29gm. Lettered edge. A marvelous “Essai” trial strike in gold of the famed “Hercules” 5 Francs design by Augustin Dupré, issued in the premier year of the Second Republic. Though 1848 is a highly prolific date in terms of the production of French Essai coinage, with re-designs of all denominations issued in droves, this piece must surely be considered near the apex of such emissions. It presents what would be the final 5 Francs design, a continuation of that originally issued by Dupré in the early years of the First Republic, struck in the most precious of metals. This is one of perhaps only two or three known in this composition, the last traceable example having appeared in a Jean Vinchon auction of October 2003; unfortunately, we are unable to determine whether that is or is not the present piece.

The quality of the specimen on offer here is beyond fault, its heavily reflective surfaces imbued with resplendent Prooflike luster, close inspection of the fields revealing a uniform spread of die lines indicative of heavy polishing, perhaps implying (as very well may be assumed by the nature of the piece’s composition) a Specimen or Proof striking. The overall appearance is that of a choice piece, with perhaps a spot or two of haze preventing what easily might have been a higher certified designation.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



Exceedingly Rare Napoleonic Gold Essai 5 Francs

30185 Napoleon III gold Proof Essai 5 Francs 1853 PR61 Cameo NGC, cf. KM-PnA90 (in silver), Gad-731, Maz-1635c (R5), VG-Unl. Plain edge. By Bouvet. An impressive specimen in all regards. Plenty of flash surrounds the raised features in a watery brilliance, highlighting devices that have received an emboldened strike, as well as a light overlay of frost that has produced a marked cameo contrast against the surrounding mirrors. The intriguing design encompasses a unique obverse legend to the type, also contemporarily produced in silver, which reads “NAPOLEON III PAR LA GRACE DE DIEU ET LA VOLONTÉ NATIONALE” (Napoleon III, by the grace of God and the national will), a clear attempt to assert the legitimacy of his rule, which was, after all, established by a coup d’état on December 2, 1851. The reverse states Napoleon’s title as Emperor of the French, imitating the style of his uncle, Napoleon I, and proclaiming a position which he had only recently acquired in his coronation as Emperor on December 2, 1852. The date, of course, marks the anniversary of the battle of Austerlitz, widely considered one of his uncle’s most impressive victories during the Napoleonic Wars, and a date which he hoped would serve as a positive omen for his reign. The type is both indisputably rare and of tremendous importance to the dedicated series collector. Beyond the present offering we can reference only a single uncertified example of the type, which sold in January of 2016 for a hammer price of \$150,000.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 293 (October 2002, Lot 322)
Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



Spectacular 1861 Piefort Essai 100 Francs

30186 Napoleon III gold Proof Piefort Essai 100 Francs 1861★ PR64 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM-Unl., Gad-1136, Maz-1602a (R5), cf. VG-3574 (weight not listed). Plain edge. 42.82gm. Obv. Laureate head of Napoleon III right with small 5 pointed star over center of BARRE below the portrait. Rev. Crowned Imperial arms with date and value. A design that was adopted and made for circulation beginning in 1862, this iconic presentation issue is known in weights of 32.25gm and a special piefort weight of 42.82gm (this specimen). At present, this is the only example to have been certified by either NGC or PCGS, and we can find no auction records of this overweight type since it was offered by Numismatica Genevensis in 2002, though Gadoury illustrates a piece for which it cites Maison Palombo. While we have not been able to trace that specimen, and we hesitate to call this piece “unique,” its supreme rarity can hardly be doubted, and quite likely exceeds even the R5 rating assigned by Mazard. In terms of its visual appearance, even its stunning PR64 Ultra Cameo designation seems somewhat conservative, as hardly a flaw can be discerned over its deeply mirrored fields. Essentially gem in quality, the care taken in the production of the offering is clear for all to see, with its devices deeply impressed and razor-sharp. A great rarity of Napoleon III on all counts, and perhaps the only chance one might have to acquire this amazing type. We note that the holder incorrectly states that this is Maz-1602 (the standard weight type).

Ex. Numismatic Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 432)

Estimate: \$100,000-\$200,000



Sublime Gem Proof Napoleon III 100 Franc Essai

30187 Napoleon III gold Proof Essai 100 Francs 1862-E PR65 Cameo NGC, KM-Unl., Gad-1136, Maz-1603 (R4), VG-3613. Type with "E" above "BARRE." Plain edge. A hauntingly attractive gem representative of the Napoleonic III 100 Franc series, struck with an "E" for "Essai" upon the obverse below Napoleon's bust. The series remains both highly popular and widely recognized by collectors, with the 20, 50, and 100 Francs of the 1860s bearing nearly identical designs and bordering on the universal appeal of such issues as the British Sovereign, which similarly remains a go-to type for both numismatic and bullion collectors. Proofs, however, are a different story, being nowhere near as attainable as examples of the regular circulation 100 Franc series. This offering takes the intrigue and desirability engendered by its type to further heights by virtue of its stunning gem preservation, the sharp devices frosted and firmly anchored in mirror resplendence to yield a decisive cameo contrast. With only three examples certified by NGC to date and a near-faultless display of technical quality, this beautiful 100 Francs is bound to impress any beholder fortunate enough to lay eyes upon it.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 433)
Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



30188 Napoleon III gold 100 Francs 1862-BB MS63 NGC, Strasbourg mint, KM802.2, Fr-581, Gad-1136. A scarce first-year issue of this Strasbourg type, with a mintage of only 3,078 pieces. Simply superb for an issue that most often comes with heavy handling and cleaning, instead found here with flashy semi-Prooflike luster and minimal marks. A piece that must be viewed in hand to be truly appreciated.

Estimate: \$2,500-\$3,000

30189 Napoleon III gold 100 Francs 1864-A MS63 NGC, Paris mint, KM802.1, Fr-580, Gad-1136. Mintage: 5,536. A wholly admirable representative of this conditionally challenging issue, which was struck in a mintage limited to just over 5,500 in total. Accordingly, choice examples such as this represent a relatively small portion of the surviving population. Flashy mint brilliance decorates the entirety of the open expanses, Napoleon's bust and the reverse shield clearly struck such that even the smallest details remain boldly expressed and projecting toward the viewer with resounding clarity.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000



Finest Certified 1878 Essai 100 Francs

30190 Republic gold Proof Essai 100 Francs 1878 PR66 Cameo NGC, KM-E34, Gad-1137, Maz-2112a (R5), VG-3903. Plain edge. Large characters variety. An incredible rarity both in terms of its type and certified condition, this immaculate 100 Francs Essai easily pushes past any reasonable limit of preservation for the issue to attain the title of “finest certified” across both major grading services. Even a cursory inspection reveals that this honor is well-deserved. Awe-inspiring brilliance careens over the surfaces with ease and grace, tempered only in its intensity by a delicate surface tone that speaks to a level of originality that can be expected of few coins nearly 150 years in age. Every feature rises in near-medallic proportion over the serene fields, contrasting cleanly against the background by virtue of a gentle golden frost that extends to even the highest points of the designs. Prolonged examination yields nothing to be desired, with the usual hairlines that typically accompany Proofs (even those in higher technical states), essentially absent from this offering. For comparison, we note that a PR65 Cameo representative of the smaller characters type (reported as being of a lesser rarity than this variety by Mazard), sold in a European auction in October of 2020 for a hammer price of 220,000 Euros, excluding buyer’s premium. Accordingly, we can only anticipate what this meaningfully finer and aesthetically sublime offering will achieve when it ultimately crosses the auction block.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 446)
Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



GERMAN NEW GUINEA



Covetable "Small Characters" 100 Francs Essai

30191 Republic gold Proof Essai 100 Francs 1878 PR62 NGC, KM-E34, Gad-1137, Maz-2112 (R4), VG-3902. Plain edge. Smaller characters variety. A gleaming Essai, produced with sharply chiseled details that are bathed in mint luminosity, and surfaces that express noteworthy reflectivity throughout. While fine hairlines in the fields establish the designated grade, the Mint State quality of the selection is without doubt, and we can reference only a single example (of the larger characters variety) that we have seen in the past 20 years. The market for this scarce Essai seems to have vastly risen since that time, and though this selection is not as fine, we nonetheless expect highly competitive bidding for such an important type.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 447)
Estimate: \$25,000-\$35,000



30192 German Colony. Wilhelm II Proof 5 Mark 1894-A PR63 NGC, Berlin mint, KM7, J-707. A colonial issue that always comes highly sought by collectors, though it is far less frequently encountered in this Proof finish. Featuring a charming blush cabinet patina and surprisingly few surface marks for the grade, it seems fair to say that this coin very much pushes the upper bounds of its already impressive choice designation. For the sake of comparison, the last example we offered, a PR64 from PCGS, achieved \$26,400 in our August 2020 Platinum Night sale.
Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



German Colonial Gem Proof 10 Mark

30193 German Colony. Wilhelm II gold Proof 10 Mark 1895-A PR65 Cameo NGC, Berlin mint, KM8, Fr-2, J-708, D&S-386. A superb offering of German colonial numismatics that immediately impresses the viewer with its immense rarity, as well as its praiseworthy technical condition. Collectors of this series are familiar with the iconic “Bird of Paradise” design, yet this is likely due to the relatively common (though still scarce in their own right) silver and copper issues produced in the prior year, 1894. Gold issues of this design are much scarcer. By comparison, only 2,000 circulation series 10 Marks were produced in 1895. Notably, the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* omits mintage figures for Proofs of that year; however, it is beyond any doubt that they are extremely scarce—in fact, the present piece represents only the third such example that we have seen. For reference, the most recent example that we sold hammered for \$60,000 in January of 2020, though that piece was without the distinguished “Cameo” designation, unlike the specimen offered here. An incredible selection, graced with mirror brilliance in the fields and contrasting devices that have been crafted with clarity and layered with a subtle golden frost. Accordingly, we expect fierce bidding for this veritable jewel of a coin, one that would indeed be difficult to meaningfully improve upon at this lofty grade designation.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000

GERMAN STATES

AUGSBURG



Intricate Biblical Medal by Sebastian Dadler

30194 Augsburg. Free City gold Medal of 8 Ducats 1626-Dated MS61 NGC, Forster-22, Stubenrauch-151, Goppel-Unl., Lanna-Unl., Wiecek-29. 41mm. 27.65gm. By Sebastian Dadler. A most intriguing and highly appealing medal from this renowned artist of the 17th century, illustrating the famous scene of the adoration of the Magi on the obverse, modified from the account provided in Matthew 2:11, and ringed by the prophecy from Psalm 72:10 ("May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores bring him tribute. May the kings of Sheba and Seba present him gifts"). To the best of our knowledge, all references to the type appear to be in silver, although the composition is not often indicated. Interestingly, while often ascribed to Augsburg, where Dadler spent a great deal of his life, Forrer indicates that he was appointed Medallist and Goldsmith to the Ducal Court of Saxony in 1625, suggesting that if this medal was indeed produced circa the date inscribed on the reverse, it would more likely have been produced in Dresden. In any case, the offering is sure to pique the attention of both series collectors of biblical-themed German medals and the works of Dadler alike, and may well be one of just a few, if not the only, examples known in this metal.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$25,000



Choice Swedish Occupation Medal

30195 Augsburg - Swedish Occupation. Gustav Adolf II silver Medal 1632-Dated MS63+ NGC, Forster-35, Hildebrand-pg. 137, 69, Hagander Collection-Unl. 73mm. 102.87gm. By Daniel Sailer. Struck in 4 Taler weight for the transfer of the city of Augsburg to Gustav Adolf II of Sweden. Fantastically preserved and virtually Prooflike, this commemorative medallion exemplifies the praise with which Gustavus Adolphus was greeted by Protestants during the Thirty Years' War. The citizens of the city promised to swear an oath of loyalty to the Swedish crown on April 14th, 1632 (just 7 months before the king's death) if he promised to spare them. Carrying the Latin slogan POST NVBILA PHOEBVS ("After the clouds comes the sunshine") and the Augsburg pinecone bedecked with civic arms, the specimen is truly beautiful in total, and effortlessly balances the simplicity and intricacy of its designs in expert fashion.

Estimate: \$7,000-\$9,000



30196 Augsburg. Free City Medallion "Council" 1-1/4 Taler 1672 MS60 NGC, Forster-51. 49mm. 36.59gm. With the name and titles of Leopold I. A formidable medallion taler presenting a prominent draped and cuirassed bust of Leopold to the obverse, the reverse depicting the coats of arms of the two city keepers and five councilors over the city of Augsburg. Glossy and iridescent, with striking elements of lagoon-blue tone that enhance the reverse.
Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000



Possibly Unique in Gold

30197 Augsburg. Free City gold “Victory at Höchstädt” Medal of 10 Ducats 1704-Dated MS63★ NGC, Van Loon-IV-427.3, Eimer-408, MI-II-258/53 var. (silver), Forster-722 (metal not stated, though likely silver), Montenuovo-1171 (same), Julius-659 (in silver). 37mm. 34.77gm. By P.H. Müller. Edge: “GLORIA AD TIBISCVM HVNGARIAE PARTA, RENOVATVR AD DANVBIVM GERMANIAE.” Armored bust right of Prince Eugene Francis of Savoy–Carignano with chain of the Order of the Golden Fleece, “EVGENIVS FRANC • DVX SAB • CAES • EXER • GENER • COMM •” surrounding / Angel with flaming sword flies above a battlefield littered with bodies, “GENII VIRTUTE BONI • II • REG • 19 •” surrounding, “GALLIS BAVARISQ • CAESIS TALLARDO CUM X • MILI AD HOCHSTAD CAPT • 1704 •” in exergue.

A dramatic type commemorating the Allied victory at the Battle of Blenheim (1704), struck in high relief and from heavily polished dies, with the fields fully Prooflike in appearance. Interestingly, Eimer attributes the type to G. Hautsch rather than Müller, and additionally notes that it was struck from more than one pair of dies. The present example has been struck from a pair of dies in a near-terminal state, with a few deep die cracks appearing around the peripheral areas of the reverse. The same cracks appear on all other examples of the medal we have found (all in silver), although in varying degrees of intensity. Believed to be unique in the present gold composition, and the only example we can locate as such. **Estimate: \$25,000-\$35,000**



30198 Augsburg. Free City 2 Taler 1740-IT MS64 NGC, Augsburg mint, KM146, Dav-1920, Förschner-150, Forster-519. 58.46gm. By Jonas Pieter Thiébaud. With the name and titles of Karl VI. An inspiring representative of this conditionally scarce double taler type, displaying an appealing sandy steel tone carrying hints of iridescence. This patina pulls away from the central devices and at the outer legends, revealing sparkling argent luster that embraces the raised motifs, while the design features exhibit a strong clarity of detail owing to a sharp strike.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 297 (October 2003, Lot 16)

Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000

BADEN



Exceptionally Heraldic and Unique 6 Ducat of Margrave Georg Friedrich

30199 Baden. Georg Friedrich gold 6 Ducat 1610 AU58 NGC, Pforzheim mint, KM-B12 (Rare; this coin), Fr-124 (Unique), Reimmann-Unl., von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., von Berstett-Unl., Goppel-Unl. 20.46gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM6.2). A type evocative of Baroque artistry, to a much greater extent than any other emission from Georg Friedrich's margraviate, featuring his portrait in full armor, brandishing a sword. The largest gold multiple produced in Baden-Durlach, and among its first gold coinage, this offering possesses a visual appeal that is truly all its own—a red-orange patina has taken to the surfaces, beautifying the fields and lending an aged, russet appearance to the gold. Minted from taler dies known to have only been employed in 1609 and 1610, we can speculate that the occasion for this design—and maybe this particular gold striking—may have been tied to Georg Friedrich's approaching completion of the Castle Church in Sulzburg around 1610, an embodiment of his Lutheran faith, which would continue to dominate Baden-Durlach thanks to his outliving his brothers. We are aware of only a single auction record for this piece, which Friedberg records as having sold for 83,000 CHF in Basel in 1998.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



BAMBERG



Presumably Unique Gold Issue of Philip Valentin Struck from Taler Dies

30200 Bamberg. Philipp Valentin von Rieneck gold 5 Ducat 1657 MS62 NGC, Nürnberg mint, KM-A47 (Rare), Fr-166 (Very Rare), Heller-Unl., Krug-265.01 (citing this coin). 17.35gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM45). Georg Nürnberger as mintmaster. The unique selection of Bamberg multiple ducats within the Paramount Collection, and offered herein, are absolutely exceptional, showcasing the excellent engraving style of the time on ideal canvases. Struck in a distinctively measured and refined style, Philipp Valentin's portrait rises in medallion stature against the open fields. The intricacy of his bust and vestments provide ample crevasses for mint luster, producing a markedly frosty appearance. While scattered wisps likely account for the certification, rub is altogether absent, allowing for a full appreciation of the motifs. Apparently missing from public auction record, we cannot emphasize enough the rare opportunity presented here—a singular chance for bidders to add one of the key rarities of the series to their collection.

Ex. Bankhaus Partin Auction 26 (March 1988, Lot 2)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Astonishingly Medallion 10 Ducat of a Coveted Portrait Type

30201 Bamberg, Marquard Sebastian Schenk von Stauffenberg gold 10 Ducat 1687 MS60 NGC, Nürnberg mint, KM-A80 (Rare), Fr-168 (Very Rare), Heller-Unl., Krug-351.02 (citing this coin). 34.70gm. By Philipp Heinrich Müller. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM78). Even at a cursory glance, this splendid 10 Ducat exudes a unique appearance that certainly places it amongst the finest productions in the Bamberg series. The masterpiece of renowned engraver Philipp Heinrich Müller, based on a sketch of Marquard Sebastian made by Georg Arnold, it is hardly surprising that this is the product of a medalist's hand. The positioning and layout of each letter in the legend is carefully measured, the bishop's portrait completed in a lifelike countenance, and the reverse arms all symmetrically balanced and proportioned. In his biography for Müller, Forrer aptly states: "His medals became known and admired all over Europe, and they belong to the best of the time" (Vol. IV, pg. 197). Clearly drawn from the artist's medals of similar design but oval layout (cf. Heller-267 and Forrer pg. 198), the 1687 portrait coins of Marquard Sebastian Schenk von Stauffenberg, usually available only from the Talers, come hotly contested. This 10 Ducat, though recorded by the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, Friedberg, and Krug, is not illustrated in any of those references. Krug for his part records only a single auction appearance, referring to this very coin. A type which deserves to be noted as 'fine style' in its own right, and an artistic marvel.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 267 (May 1996, Lot 386); Adolph Hess-Bank Leu (October 1969, Lot 1)

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Nearly Prooflike and Potentially Unique Lothar Franz 10 Ducat

30202 Bamberg. Lothar Franz von Schönborn gold 10 Ducat 1697-GFN MS61+ NGC, Nürnberg mint, KM-B97 (Rare), Fr-168c (Very Rare; different dies), Heller-Unl., Krug-370.02 (citing this coin). 34.74gm. By Georg Friedrich Nürnberger. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM95). Perhaps the most perceivable feature of this 10 Ducat, aside from its obvious rarity, is its manifold medalllic features—from the striking raised reliefs of the designs, to the semi-reflective sheen present over its fields that is appreciable even at an arm's length. Clearly deserving of its "plus" certification by virtue of its near-flawless minting, we note that Krug, at the time of publishing his *Die Münzen des Hochstifts Bamberg*, knew of only a single example (this piece). Although neither Davenport nor the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* records any special occasion for the production of the Taler struck from the same dies, the fact that Georg Friedrich Nürnberger produced a series of 1697-dated medals for Lothar Franz in his position both as Archbishop-Elector of Mainz and Bishop of Bamberg to commemorate the Peace of Ryswick (cf. Forrer Vol. IV, pg. 290, cf. Heller-313-318 for medals by other artists), strongly suggests that a similar purpose lies behind the execution of this special gold striking. The Peace of Ryswick marked the cessation of hostilities between France under Louis XIV and the Grand Alliance. With Lothar's former coadjutor and predecessor as Archbishop of Mainz, Anselm Franz, long exercising a policy of opposition to the French King, it is hardly surprising that the event would have held a special meaning for Lothar Franz. While we have been unable to find any other sales records for this emission, we sold a 5 Ducat of the same Bishop, certified AU55, as part of the Eric P. Newman Collection for \$30,550 in January 2014.

Ex. Bankhaus Partin Auction 26 (March 1988, Lot 6)
Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000

BAVARIA



Mint State 16th-Century 8 Ducat Struck in High Relief

30203 Bavaria. Maximilian I gold Medallion 8 Ducat 1598 MS62+ NGC, Munich mint, KM-MB135, Fr-187, Wittelsbach-775, Hahn-Unl. 27.80gm. Full-length standing armored figure of Saint Heinrich holding orb and scepter, SANCTVS • HENRICVS • ROM: IMPERATOR • BAVAR: DVX / Arms of Bavaria and Pfalz divide date, electoral hat above, MAXIMILIANVS: DEI: G: CO: PAL: RHE: VTR: BAVA: DVX •. Issued in a very small quantity upon Maximilian's homage as Prince-Elector of Bavaria (a common part of the coronation ceremony). Struck in high relief, the design of the present coin exhibits absolutely no weakness, appearing admirably well-centered, with the entirety of the beaded rim placed well within the outer borders of the planchet. Produced within the early stages of mechanized coin production in central Europe—first conceived in Augsburg around 1550 and the roller press permanently adopted by the Hall mint in 1567—this offering serves as an embodiment of this new, incredible technology, and Maximilian's use of milling techniques to produce the first emissions of his reign was simply ingenious.

Closer review of this specimen confirms its elegant appearance and bold technical display. The high-level of production has resulted in an overall finish that is quite medallion in nature, and very much reminiscent of pieces struck a century or so later. The condition is incomparable—the fields free of the damage, mishandling, or evidence of cleaning that so often plagues gold issues of this age, while the entirety of the flan shines with resplendent green-gold luster.

While type collectors of Bavarian coinage will be much more familiar with the issues of Maximilian from his famed full-length figure/city view 5 Ducats, this issue is available far less frequently. The Wittelsbach catalog recorded only a single gold example in a royal collection. For comparison, the last representative of this type that we have been able to locate, certified MS62 by NGC, achieved \$140,000 in October 2018. A truly breathtaking piece, and worthy of close inspection in hand.

Ex. Künker Auction 91 (March 2004, Lot 7894)

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Uncirculated Bavarian Gold Commemorative

30204 Bavaria. Maximilian I gold 5 Ducat 1640 MS61 NGC, Munich mint, KM268, Fr-196, Wittelsbach-807, Hahn-Unl. 17.29gm. Date above city view variety. Obv. Maximilian standing slightly right, fully clad in armor, holding scepter and resting hand upon orb set upon altar to right; all within ornate hallway. Rev. Veduta of Munich within the fortifications; above, the Madonna seated facing among the clouds, holding Holy Infant and scepter; cherub to left and right. Commemorating the completion of new fortifications around Munich. Of the highest quality in the context of the assigned grade and displaying a combination of commendable lustrous warmth and expressive design motifs. Though typical lightness of strike is evident at the higher points, fine die polish lines create a covetable texture in the fields and the reverse city view is intricately detailed and absolutely beautiful. Only the faintest friction precludes finer certification, and one might easily conclude that this appealing specimen could compete with even higher-graded offerings on its technical merits alone.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



Elaborate Gold 10 Ducat of Bavaria

30205 Bavaria. Karl Albrecht gold Medallion 10 Ducat 1739 AU58 NGC, Munich mint, KM-Unl., Fr-227B (Very Rare), Wittelsbach-1868 var. (unlisted in gold), Hahn-239 var. (same), Grottemeyer-2. 34.80gm. By Franz Schega. CAR • ALB • D • G • V • B • & P • - S • D • C • P • R • S • R • I • A • & E • L • L •, armored bust right bearing chain of the Order of the Golden Fleece / Two lions supporting coats of arms of Bavaria and the Palatinate, electoral cap above, city view of Munich below, date in Roman numerals on ribbon above. One of fewer than a handful known, its lack of inclusion in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* is a testament to its extreme rarity. The flan is lightly Prooflike, with just a touch of friction to the high points, while the strike has been rendered definitively. Possessing a fine design style, it is notable that the artist responsible, Schega, was self-taught as both an engraver and a medallist. For completeness, some small scratches appear in the reverse field to the upper right of the coat of arms, but they are of little consequence to the overall pleasing nature of this specimen. To our knowledge, only one other specimen has been certified, besting the current offering by a mere three grade points, which achieved 210,000 Euros in June 2020.

Karl Albrecht (Charles VII) served as Prince-elector of Bavaria from 1726, and as Holy Roman Emperor from 1742 until his death in 1745. His reign as the latter represented the height of the Bavarian Rococo era and marked the end of three centuries of uninterrupted Habsburg imperial rule.

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



30206 Bavaria. Ludwig I “Royal Family” Taler 1828 MS62 NGC, Munich mint, KM734, Dav-563. Blessings of Heaven on the Royal Family type. Showcasing a deep, hearty tone with underlying luster in the fields.

Estimate: \$200-\$400

BESANÇON



30207 Besançon. Free City gold 3 Pistoles 1666 AU Details (Removed From Jewelry) NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-75a1 (under France), PdA-Unl., Boudeau-Unl., Dup-3072 (listed as a Quadruple Pistole). 18.31gm. With the name and titles of Charles V. Among the largest gold denominations produced by the city of Besançon, and one that immediately allows for a greater appreciation of its designs owing to its broader format. A light scattering of marks is visible across the surfaces, as are the effects of a past cleaning, all of which are typical of ex-jewelry pieces. Despite that, the edges show surprisingly little evidence of a harsh mount removal, the full graining present without any clear signs of having been repaired. Particularly intriguing as a historical specimen, as Charles’ granting of minting rights to the city in 1534 lead to its continued use of his name and titles long after his death. We have only been able to locate one other (comparatively nicer) example of this type at auction in recent years, which brought 11,100 Euros in December 2017. Misabeled on the holder as a 2 Pistoles.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000

BRANDENBURG



Astonishing Gem Mint State Brandenburg Taler

30208 Brandenburg. Friedrich Wilhelm Taler 1679-CS MS65 NGC, Berlin mint, KM490 (this coin cited), Dav-6208, Reimar/Texier-610 (Rare), Madai-3076, Marienburg-Unl., Reimann-3217, von Schluthess-Rechberg-5937, Henckel Collection-947, Belli Collection-2395, von dem Busche-771, cf. Wilmersdörffer-7521 (lead off-metal strike), von Schrötter-207. Christoph Stricker as mintmaster. A paragon of the type—likely among the finest in existence, if not so—seeming to outrank even the specimen contained in the Berlin Münzkabinett (Object No. 18205890). The *Standard Catalog of World Coins* cites the 2003 sale of this very coin, which provides some indication as to the difficulty of locating superior examples of the type, particularly one in glorious gem Mint State.

The obverse prominently displays Brandenburg's "Great Elector," Friedrich Wilhelm, who drastically reformed the electorate and set the stage for his son and successor, Frederick I, to later become the first "King in Prussia." That entity would soon rank as a foremost power on the European continent, as well as the lead actor in achieving German unification during the second half of the 19th century. The condition of the specimen is nothing less than extraordinary. Soft silver patination overlies surfaces that contain scintillating argent luster. Mint brilliance envelopes the devices, which have been rendered admirably and preserved in their full Mint State splendor. The reverse, more satiny in character and also highly engaging, reveals a combination of needle-sharp detailing and only isolated central weakness to the strike, with some mild planchet adjustment noted. If ever there was a coin that, "should not exist" in terms of its technical quality and allure, then this taler is certainly it.

Ex. Künker Auction 81 (March 2003, Lot 4099); Galerie des Monnaies Auction 22 (1979, Lot 35); Otto Helbing Auction 82 (1941, Lot 2038)
Estimate: \$20,000-\$25,000



Highly Elusive “Great Elector” 5 Ducat

30209 Brandenburg. Friedrich Wilhelm gold 5 Ducat 1679 AU58 NGC, Berlin mint, KM493, Fr-Unl., Marienburg-Unl., Henckel Collection-Unl., Belli Collection-Unl., Reimmann-Unl., Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Bahrfeldt-18. 17.33gm. Christoph Stricker (?) as mintmaster. A formidable rarity struck during the rule of the “Great Elector,” Friedrich Wilhelm. Known as the driver of reform and transformation within the electorate, which would ultimately become the European power known more simply as Prussia (named after the Polish duchy held by the electors of Brandenburg), Friedrich’s rule initiated an extended period of growth in both influence and power for the previously inconsequential entity. Prussia’s military prowess soon became renowned throughout Europe, leading Voltaire to claim that, “While most states have an army the Prussian army has a state.”

This nearly uncirculated 5 Ducat is an incredibly elusive rarity of the series, struck in the last decade of Friedrich Wilhelm’s reign as Elector of Brandenburg and Duke of Prussia. Both Bahrfeldt and the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* note that the dies employed are the same as those used in the striking of taler type KM490. However, while very similar, we note that the reverse dies are in fact different. The details in the ornate shield design of this piece vary in both style and size, on the whole being larger than those of the taler issue of the same date. Further, the top lettering varies in shape and proportion, and the initials “CS,” located on the flanks of the taler reverse, are absent from this design. The combined rarity and visual appeal of the selection is undeniable. Toned to an antique gold, the surfaces display commendable detail and reveal glistening luster throughout the fields. Bahrfeldt records just two specimens in his 1913 *Das Münzwesen der Mark Brandenburg*: one in the Berlin Coin Cabinet and the piece described by Arnim.

One cannot afford to be overly selective with respect to quality when it comes to the highest tiers of rarity, owing to a lack of available options. However, in this case, no such compromise is necessary—no marks or contact are noted throughout that would even be remotely worthy of mention. For the specialized collector of German States and Brandenburg-Prussian coinage, a singular opportunity.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000

BREMEN



Rare Free City 10 Ducat Struck with Taler Dies

30210 Bremen. Free City gold 10 Ducat 1743-MF MS62 NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-418 (Rare), Wittelsbach-Unl., cf. Jungk-511 (gold striking mentioned, though weight not provided). 34.97gm. Martin Fischer as mintmaster. With the name and titles of Karl VII. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM183, Dav-2049). Extremely rare, and the only example of the type hailing from this former Hanseatic city that we have encountered to date, with Jungk reporting only a single gold striking (of unspecified weight) in the Cassel Münzkabinett. It is no exaggeration to say that the intricate designs, also employed in the production of the taler issue of 1743, achieve their most remarkable presentation in this luxurious and heavy-weight gold format. Animated golden luster careens over the fields upon rotation and inspection, confirming NGC's Mint State designation. A firm and central placement of the dies has resulted in even borders at the edges, as well as crisp highpoint detail to the majority of the features. Collectors of the German States series will no doubt be familiar with the city key and lion supporters design that spans several centuries of use on the city's coinage, yet few will ever have the chance to see, much less own, such an exemplary piece in gold, preserved in its full Mint State glory.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



BRESLAU



Perhaps Only the Third Known Example of this Commemorative Issue

30211 Breslau. Philipp Gotthard von Schaffgotsch gold 5 Ducat (1/2 Portugalöser) 1748 AU Details (Obverse Cleaned) NGC, Neisse or Vienna mint(?), KM223 (Rare), Fr-529 (Very Rare), Saurma-Jeltsch-235, Plate XVI, 93, F&S-2776, Indra, “Mincování niského knížete a vřatislavského biskupa Filipa Gottharda Schaffgotsche v letech 1748–1777 v Cukmantlu, Vídni a v Praze” (Numisatické listy 18, 2003), pg. 46, 1. 17.28gm. A type as distinctive as it is rare, presenting a unique portrait style for the Prince-Bishop, known only from his ducat, 4 ducat, and 5 ducat of 1748. Produced in a distinctively different manner than the engraving from the portraiture of Ignaz Donner at Vienna—whose ducat coinage of Philipp Gotthard is much more plentiful—his features here appear noticeably “unfinished” and cruder nature, with emphasis drawn to his protruding nose, downplaying the character of the remainder of the face. Interestingly, the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* provides no indication of who cut dies for Breslau’s coinage of this period in its list of mint officials, though Jaromir Indra has pointed out that J. F. Joachim, in his 1761 *Das neu eröffnete Münzcabinet*, suggested that they were the work of Wracław medallist Johann Gottfried Held. However, he further underlines Joachim’s general unreliability.

It is highly likely that this particular series was struck upon the death of Philipp Gotthard’s coadjutor Philipp Ludwig von Sinzendorf and the confirmation of his appointment as Prince-Bishop by Pope Benedict XIV on 5 March 1748, despite disagreements between the Pope and Gotthard on the position of Freemasonry. Such a special commemorative occasion could certainly help explain the paucity of known survivors. Indra reported only a single example, residing in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, in his 2003 article on the coinage of Philipp Gotthard. To that, we may add the piece plated by Friedensburg and Seger—poorly photographed, though with a distinctive mark on the reverse (current whereabouts unknown)—along with the present example, which may very well be the only representative in private hands. As such, this coin can certainly be counted among the rarest emissions of the bishopric, and is of undoubted desirability, even with the noted minor cleaning.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000

BRUNSWICK-LÜNEBURG-CALENBERG



30212 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Calenberg. Georg II Wilhelm 5 Taler 1660-HS AU Details (Tooled, Denomination Effaced) NGC, Goslar or Zellerfeld mint, KM71 (Rare), Dav-LS194, Preussag Collection-182, Welter-1564. Henning Schülter as mintmaster. With value stamp “5” on reverse. A seldom-found offering that remains treasured in all conditions. In the last two decades, there have only been two other specimens to appear at auction, the most recent of which, though finer in condition, brought the equivalent of \$73,330 in June 2016. At present, this offering is the only certified representative, and it is still very much coveted in this nearly uncirculated preservation. We would note that the ex. Garrett specimen, cited as XF in the *Standard Catalog*, still achieved \$12,060 as part of the Milas sale in 1992.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$4,000



Rare Variant of “Mining” 3 Taler

30213 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Calenberg. Johann Friedrich 3 Taler 1677-HB AU53 NGC, Clausthal mint, cf. KM133.2 (altered design, with “HB” to reverse), cf. Dav-LS212 (same), Duve-5, Preussag Collection-198. 87.47gm. Heinrich Bonhorst as mintmaster. Without value stamp. A rare type that notably varies from the design depicted in Davenport, with the horse oriented differently over an altered mining scene that contains tree-less hills in the background and a large wheel to the right. The reverse of a similarly adjusted design contains repositioned legends and initials “HB” (for mintmaster Heinrich Bonhorst) below. Toned to an even steel-gray, deep graphite accents highlighting the presentation of the raised design motifs, lending a suitably medallion feel to this expansive multiple taler.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 2396)

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



30214 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Calenberg. Ernst August 2 Taler 1680-RB AU53 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM-A269, Dav-LS233, Knyphausen-2574, Preussag Collection-208, Welter-1920. 52.01gm. Rudolf Bornemann as mintmaster. With value stamp "2" on obverse. An instantly appealing large-size issue, featuring the arms of Osnabrück (a wheel) in the foreground of a highly detailed ship-at-sea scene. Evenly patinated in a soft graphite to stone-gray color that lends a sculpturesque appearance to the piece, it is hard to imagine the type with a much more appealing presentation for the grade. This offering certainly possesses a cabinet feel that is bound to be appreciated by its future owner.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 2401)
Estimate: \$1,500-\$2,000

30215 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Calenberg. Ernst August 2 Taler 1688-RB AU55 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM282.2, Dav-LS244, Welter-1924. 57.10gm. Rudolf Bornemann as mintmaster. With value stamp "2" on reverse. Steel-gray in color, with faint friction expressed across the surfaces and only minimal wear to the highpoints of the designs. Well-centered, leaving an even rim that borders the central features, and glistening luster confirming a near-Mint State level of preservation.

Ex. Künker Auction 77 (September 2002, Lot 2144)
Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500



30216 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Calenberg. Ernst August 3 Taler 1681-RB AU58 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM284, Dav-LS238, Knyphausen-Unl., Preussag Collection-210, Welter-1923. 83.45gm. Rudolf Bornemann as mintmaster. With value stamp "3" on reverse. An utterly superb representative of this rarely seen multiple taler, bordering on Mint State despite a few stray signs of contact and hints of friction atop the very highest points. Typically found in heavily circulated or more abused conditions, as is seen on the Preussag specimen, this coin has clearly been cared for since it was first plucked from circulation. Long-time cabinet storage has resulted in a deep plum hue permeated by hints of cobalt and champagne. According to our research, the next nicest example that we located brought just shy of \$13,000 in an October 2018 auction, and we would note that this specimen is currently the single finest at NGC.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



30217 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Calenberg. Ernst August 3 Taler 1681-RB AU55 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM284, Dav-LS238, Preussag Collection-210, Welter-1923. 81.45gm. Rudolf Bornemann as mintmaster. With value stamp "3" on reverse. Delightfully preserved, displaying a potent combination of clear detailing and underlying luster. The crowning touch to this stellar specimen lies in its vibrant patina, evenly blending lilac iridescence with metallic coloration to complete its striking visual impact. Barely a trace of rub is apparent to the higher points of the designs, which remain impressively sharp in all but isolated areas of the landscape and leaping horse motif. Light traces of doubling are noted throughout, amidst a sea of backlit gloss. A wholly impressive multiple taler that, outside a Mint State designation, could hardly be enhanced.

Ex. Künker Auction 77 (September 2002, Lot 2140)

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



BRUNSWICK-LÜNEBURG-CELLE





Stunning Unique 20 Ducat of Christian the Elder, Bishop of Minden

30218 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle. Christian von Minden gold 20 Ducat ND (1611-1633) AU55 NGC, Winsen mint, KM-Unl., Fr-541 (Unique; this coin), Knyphausen-Unl., Wilmsdörffer-Unl., Antoine-Feill Collection-Unl., Vogel Collection-Unl., Elbeshausen Collection-Unl., Preussag Collection-Unl (see lot 122, struck from the same dies), Welter-Unl. (cf. Welter-919 for 1-1/2 Taler). 59mm. 69.87gm. Hans Heine as mintmaster. Struck from 1-1/2 Taler dies (cf. KM249, Dav-LS125) without value stamp. In a word: astonishing. This presumably unique off-metal strike of Christian the Elder, Bishop of Minden's silver "rider" coinage, appears to have been missing from every major collection we have consulted: Knyphausen, Antoine-Feill, Vogel, Wilmsdörffer, Brand, Elbeshausen, Preussag, and Popken. Its purpose of production was very likely tied to the conflicts of the Thirty Years' War, during which time the Duke and Prince-Bishop had allied himself with the Habsburg Emperor, not converting to Protestantism until 1629.

Struck from the same dies as lot number 122 in the Preussag Collection (a unique 2 Taler), this offering continues to preserve a great degree of originality throughout, showing no evidence of punctures, mounting, or edge damage, with overall wear remaining quite light. Although the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* tentatively dates the 1-1/2 Taler to 1622 and the 3 Taler to 1601, it is possible that the motto featured on the obverse, IUSTITIA ET CONCORDIA ("Justice and Concord"), places the minting of this issue sometime after 1625 when this legend first appeared on Christian's coinage (cf. Dav-LSA116). This might be tied to the occupation of his bishopric by imperial troops in 1623 (a situation he had endeavored to prevent), after which he resigned his position as Colonel of the Lower Saxon troops. Simply a singular opportunity, and one not to be missed by serious collectors of German gold multiples. Erroneously dated on the holder from 1599, as he assumed rule of Lüneburg in 1611.

Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



30219 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle. Friedrich V 3 Taler 1647-LW AU55 NGC, Clausthal mint, KM177, Dav-LS135 (this coin plated in the 1972 ed.), Knyphausen-8432, Elbeshausen Collection-708, Preussag Collection-127, Welter-1399. 86.71gm. Lippold Wefer as mintmaster. With legend on obverse, and value stamp “3” on reverse. By no means a type that is offered with any regularity at auction, especially as such—without serious doubling, die shifts, or flan cracks along the edges. Graced with cabinet toning over the surfaces, this piece presently stands as one of a mere three examples certified by NGC to date. Additionally, this specimen doubles as the plate piece in Davenport’s seminal reference.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 2449)
Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000

30220 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle. Friedrich V 4 Taler 1639-HS AU Details (Obverse Tooled) NGC, Clausthal mint, KM152, Dav-LS130, Elbeshausen Collection-Unl., Preussag Collection-132, Welter-1405. 114.42gm. Henning Schreiber as mintmaster. With value stamp “4” on reverse. One of the largest coins produced during Friedrich V’s reign, and one with scant auction appearances over the last several decades. Our research brings to light only two other examples: the Preussag specimen, a very nice representative which realized 28,000 Pounds, and the Milas specimen (Spink-Taisei Auction 40, April 1992, Lot 62), which was struck from different dies. Though lightly tooled to the right of the Duke’s portrait, the strike as a whole is very deeply impressed, surrounded by a light cabinet patina that dresses the obverse surfaces in a soft, lustrous sheen. For the sake of accuracy, we note a pair of flan cracks along the upper edge, though these do not seem to pose any danger to the coin’s integrity. Sold with a copy of an old lot description.
Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000



Enthralling and Nearly Mint State Brunswick 5 Taler

30221 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle. Friedrich V 5 Taler 1647-LW AU58 NGC, Clausthal mint, KM181, Dav-LS133, Knyphausen-2056, Elbeshausen Collection-Unl., Preussag Collection-125, Welter-1397. 144.77gm. Lippold Weber as mintmaster. With value stamp “5” on reverse. Struck to celebrate the imminent end of the Thirty Years’ War. A commanding coin worthy of examination in hand, its beauty easily surpassing the upper bounds of its technical grade. Aged cabinet patina bathes both sides of the planchet in a shimmering shade of battleship gray. Undeniably of museum quality, the strike is perfectly centered on the obverse and reverse alike, with no trace of a die shift to blur the details—a typical feature on the few known examples of this type. A fitting canvas for this celebratory subject matter—two mineworkers embracing in the foreground—and among one of the nicest representatives extant. Likely to outpace the ex. Garrett specimen, with the Preussag example selling for the equivalent of \$52,510 when offered at auction in 2015.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



30222 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle. Christian Ludwig 1-1/2 Taler 1664-LW UNC Details (Obverse Spot Removed) NGC, Clausthal mint, KM251.5, Dav-LS190b, Knyphausen-2164, Preussag Collection-Unl., Welter-1498. 43gm. Lippold Weber as mintmaster. With value stamp "1 1/2" on reverse. Variety with tree on obverse and 23 leaves in reverse wreath. A classic emission of the principality that celebrates the famous mines in the Harz mountains, presenting an incredibly eye-catching cabinet patina that brightens over the features and darkens in the fields, yielding a charming night-and-day contrast. Though a small spot removal is noted to the left of the horse, it is of little visual disturbance to an otherwise strong Mint State offering. Sold with an old Pegasi Numismatics tag.
Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,500



30223 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle. Christian Ludwig "Wildman" 3 Taler 1665-HS AU58 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM256.2, Dav-LS192, Knyphausen-2159, Elbeshausen Collection-Unl., Preussag Collection-174, Welter-1501. 85.72gm. Henning Schlüter as mintmaster. With value stamp "3" on reverse. A fanciful representative of one of the most iconic motifs in German coinage, and one that is endlessly beloved by collectors. Preserved just shy of a Mint State designation, this Wildemannlöser is currently the only example certified at NGC. Despite the presence of light rub, the overall allure of this selection remains intact, with focus centered on rolling luster that cascades across expanses toned with shades of apricot, violet, and blue. Struck to commemorate the yield from the Harz mines, the most productive source of silver in Germany, the bod- ing Wildman depicted on the obverse may signify that the silver used to strike this coin was extracted from the mining area around the town of Wildemann, which took its name from the figure. Legend has it that miners looking for a promising source of silver had discovered a Wildman in 1529, and after succeeding in capturing him, discovered huge deposits of silver.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



30224 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle. Christian Ludwig 4 Taler 1664-LW MS62 NGC, Clausthal mint, KM223.5, Dav-LS187, Preussag Collection-156, Welter-1495. 115.13gm. Lippold Weber as mintmaster. With value stamp “4” on reverse. A highly attractive representative from the 1664 multiple series, displaying a conditional state wholly outside the bounds of what might be considered typical for this anything *but* typical issue. Marvelously toned in a soft, silvery patina that lies with balanced grace over the fields, the surfaces express sleek, underlying luster and the devices have been rendered with an impressive strike, leaving highpoint detail crisp and bold in appearance. The leaping horse design is a virtual icon of the Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle series, but rarely is this motif displayed in such an inspiring combination of expansive size and top-tier preservation. We note that out of only three certified by NGC to date, this offering is the sole example recognized in Mint State.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000

30225 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle. Christian Ludwig 5 Taler 1648-HS AU55 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM198, Dav-LS144, Knyphausen-Unl., Elbeshausen Collection-Unl., Preussag Collection-Unl., Welter-1472. 144.47gm. Henning Schlüter as mintmaster. Without value stamp. The second largest multiple for this inaugural issue, likely produced on the occasion of Christian Ludwig’s inheritance of the territories of Celle. Emitting a light, even distribution of rub across the devices, the Duke’s figure atop his horse is laudably free of the softness observed in other regions of the strike, leaving his facial features and even the smaller rivets of his arms appreciably defined. Perhaps only mildly finer than the handful of other examples that have appeared at auction in recent years. Though difficult to ascertain on the basis of photography alone, it is notable that the denomination was altogether missing from Knyphausen, Elbeshausen, and Preussag.

Ex. Künker Auction 77 (September 2002, Lot 2061)

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



Uncirculated Christian Ludwig 5 Taler

30226 Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle. Christian Ludwig 5 Taler 1664-LW MS61 NGC, Clausthal mint, KM224.4, Dav-LS186, Preussag Collection-155, Welter-1494. 143.83gm. Lippold Weber as mintmaster. With value stamp "5" on reverse. A sublime 5 taler of imposing scale and presentation-worthy quality, exceptionally preserved in its full Mint State glory. The rarity of the type is unquestioned, and we note that even a smoothed example achieved a hammer price amounting to over \$12,000 in a European auction in June 2017. This current piece far exceeds that offering in terms of condition. A gentle, silver patina complements sweeping motifs throughout the dynamic design, coupled with a distinct undercurrent of argent luster that shines through at every point of inspection. Highly elusive, visually superb, and absent even a single flaw worthy of mention, this captivating quintuple-weight issue deserves inclusion in only the highest tier of taler collections.

Ex. Künker Auction 77 (September 2002, Lot 2073)

Estimate: \$15,000-\$25,000

BRUNSWICK-WOLFENBÜTTEL



Essentially Uncirculated 5 Taler “Löser” Struck with the Proper Weight

30227 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. Julius 5 Taler 1574 AU58 NGC, Heinrichstadt mint, Dav-LS2, Knyphausen-Unl., Elbeshausen Collection-Unl., Preussag Collection-Unl. (see lot 2), Welter-550. 146.13gm. Heinrich Veeber as mintmaster. Stamped with the correct denomination of 5 Talers. A magnificent issue from one of the most contested series of this principality, designed with artistic imagery, and minted in a total of 9 weights (ranging from 2 to 16 Talers). Interestingly, most of these were struck from 10 Taler dies, and thus they bear the incorrect denomination in the reverse legend. Encountered here displaying bold, residual luster and a wonderful clarity of struck detail, despite a minor shift of the die. We note that this denomination—which is correctly designated on the coin—and date combination was altogether missing from the Elbeshausen and Preussag collections, as well as Künker’s current listing of the Popken collection. For comparison, the Preussag specimen, of 4-1/2 Taler weight, though carrying the denomination X Taler, achieved the equivalent of nearly \$70,000 in October 2015.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Seemingly Unpublished 5 Taler “Löser” with the Denomination Erased from the Dies

30228 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. Julius 5 Taler 1574 AU Details (Mount Removed) NGC, Heinrichstadt mint, Dav-LS2, Knyphausen-Unl., Elbeshausen Collection-Unl., Preussag Collection-Unl. (see lot 2), Welter-Unl. (cf. Welter-549). 146.01gm. Heinrich Veeber as mintmaster. Without denomination. A most intriguing specimen of this first multiple taler of Brunswick, seemingly standing in a transitional period between the issues of Welter-549 and 550. During this time, coins were undergoing a design change—the dies were shifted to read AM WERT 5 TALER, instead of AM WERT X TALER. Interestingly, the present specimen shows evidence that the denomination had been removed from the old dies, rather than new dies being cut to strike such pieces. In our research, we have not come across any other examples that express this phenomenon. Spectacular in total, the designs have been boldly rendered and are darkly patinated throughout, while the surrounding fields emit a soft, salt-gray tone. The noted mount removal, while unfortunate, is not unusual for this series. By all indications seemingly unpublished, and of the highest rarity as such.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000

30229 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. Heinrich Julius 3 Taler 1612(o) AU58 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM29.3, Dav-LS31, Duve-4, Preussag Collection-20, Welter-619. 86.51gm. Heinrich Oeckeler as mintmaster. With value stamp “3” on reverse. Displaying only a minimum of rub to the higher points to preclude full Mint State certification, while the surfaces remain highly glossy underneath a balanced, battleship-gray patina. The careful post-circulation preservation of the piece is evidenced by the intricacy of detail within Heinrich Julius’s armor and saddle blanket, with only a trace of contact visible to the peripheries of the devices. A clearly legible “3” stamp at 6 o’clock on the reverse indicates the denomination. Very scarce in this condition.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000



Magnificently Patinated Near-Mint 5 Taler of Heinrich Julius

30230 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. Heinrich Julius 5 Taler 1609-(o) AU58 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM31.2, Dav-LS28, Knyphausen-143, Preussag Collection-17, Welter-614. 144.52gm. Heinrich Oeckeler as mintmaster. Struck from 10 Taler dies (cf. KM32). With value stamp "5" on reverse. Cabinet-toned to absolute perfection. Most surviving examples express heavy wear, leaving their surfaces dull with even, pale gray color. This specimen, however, presents devices that are carefully draped in a silvery patina, with surrounding fields that have developed a smoky gunmetal hue, creating a palpable visual contrast that easily elevates its status. For comparison, there is only one other example currently certified, graded AU53 by NGC. With exceptionally fine examples bringing upwards of \$30,000—the most recent to sell hammered for 34,000 CHF in October 2020—we can only anticipate the heights this specimen will reach. Almost certainly one of the nicest available.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



30231 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. Friedrich Ulrich 1-1/2 Taler 1625-HS AU55 NGC, Goslar or Zellerfeld mint, KM356, Dav-LS57a, Duve-13, Preussag Collection-Unl., Welter-1033. 43.34gm. Hermann Schlanbusch as mintmaster. Without value stamp. Struck to commemorate the yield of St. Jacob's mine in the Harz Mountains. A rare multiple taler depicting St. Jacob, staff in hand and standing on flower-covered ground, with Jehovah's name displayed above within a radiant sun. Highly elusive in this denomination, we located only one other example in sales archives from the larger part of the last two decades, with that same specimen selling twice in European auctions between March 2016 and January 2021. Modestly circulated, with significant mint gloss that prevails across the surfaces underneath a veil of silver cabinet tone, concentrating in depth to provide an emboldened effect around the devices. Traces of crimson and green-gold iridescence contained within the outer border further elevate this offering's appeal.

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000

Incredibly Elusive Brunswick 5 Taler

30232 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. Friedrich Ulrich 5 Taler 1620 MS61 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM227, Dav-LS45, Duve-6 (RR), Knyphausen-211, Preussag Collection-27, Welter-1015. 144.63gm. Hans Laffers as mintmaster. With value stamp "5" on reverse. Obv. Duke Friedrich Ulrich riding horse to right. Rev. Helmeted coat of arms, with date above in Roman numerals and a value below near the reverse edge at 6 o'clock. An expansive and alluringly toned quintuple taler depicting the Duke Friedrich Ulrich on horseback with an intricately crafted coat of arms design to the reverse. Sharp highpoint motifs confirm the Mint State condition recognized by NGC, with a soft steel patina uniformly laid upon the surfaces yielding a distinctive eye appeal for a coin of over 400 years in age. Decidedly scarce at this level of preservation, the offering is one of only three examples seen by NGC to date and the only such specimen deemed uncirculated.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 2357)

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



30233 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. Friedrich Ulrich 5 Taler 1620 AU55 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM-227, Dav-LS45, Duve-6 (RR), Knyphausen-211, Welter-1015. 143.58gm. Obv. Duke Friedrich Ulrich riding horse to right. Rev. Helmeted coat of arms, with date above in Roman numerals and a small "5" stamped near the reverse edge at 6 o'clock. Magnificently toned in steel-blue and soft lilac over delightfully glossy surfaces, this specimen has been preserved just shy of a Mint State quality. A lightening of color atop the raised features lends an admirable "reverse cameo" effect, amplifying the sharpness of the devices, which remain exceptionally crisp and gratifying throughout the ornate designs. Rolling mint luster expresses itself fully on the reverse, where the intricacy of the wildmen and coat of arms are displayed in their fullest splendor, a consequence of both a firm strike and commendable subsequent care in the specimen's 400-year history. A coin that easily exceeds the few uncirculated survivors by its sheer visual impact.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 2358)
Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



30234 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. August II 2 Taler 1662-HS AU58 NGC, Goslar mint, KM451.3, Dav-LS74, Welter-772. 57.29gm. Henning Schlüter as mintmaster. With value stamp "2" on obverse. A classic double taler from Brunswick that bears the iconic image of the Duke on horseback. Bordering on Mint State, and scarce so fine, this beautifully designed and well-executed specimen lacks any evidence of doubling or die shifts. Currently the only example certified, and the second coin of this type that we have handled.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 2363)
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30235 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. August II 4 Taler 1665/1655-HS AU55 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM453, Dav-LS68, Knyphausen-Unl., Elbeshausen Collection-Unl., Preussag Collection-71 var. (there, without value stamp), Welter-774 var. (same). 115.38gm. Henning Schlüter as mintmaster. With value stamp "4" on the obverse. Dated 1665 on the obverse and 1655 on the reverse. An attractive piece which is, by all accounts, much scarcer with the denomination stamped onto the obverse than without. This is readily apparent by the absence of this variety from both the Preussag and Milas collections, as well as its omission from Welter's standard reference. One of three such pieces our survey of recent auction records has revealed, this current offering certainly comes endowed with a singular visual palette. Shades of iridescent blue reside within the expansive fields, transforming into russet and golden accents as they meet the edges of the sharply expressed, raised features. While we have not been able to find an explanation for the two different dates observed on the issue, it seems probable that the reverse die by Schlüter was recycled for the newly dated 1665 emissions, as is perhaps suggested by the expansion of die cracks on some 1665-dated specimens (compare Preussag Collection lots 58 and 71).

Ex. Künker Auction 86 (September 2003, Lot 1374)

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



Virtually Gem “88th Birthday” 5 Taler

30236 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. August II 5 Taler 1666-HS MS64 NGC, Goslar or Zellerfeld mint, KM490, Dav-LS83, Knyphausen-432, Preussag Collection-75, Welter-780. 144.33gm. Henning Schlüter as mintmaster. With value stamp “5” on reverse. Struck to commemorate the 88th birthday of August II. Exquisite, and a fitting canvas for this masterfully executed final emission of August the Younger, depicting the aged Duke being crowned by the personifications of Justice and Peace. Certainly one of the most iconic types of his reign, this 5 Taler represents the third-largest denomination minted at the time (just behind the 6 and 10 talers), and proved so popular in the 17th century that it was restruck twice during the reigns of his sons for collectors—once by Julius Philipp Eisenbraht (IPE) and once by Rudolf Bornemann (RB). Bathed in a glimmering and mildly reflective light, the broad flan captures the full intricacies of the stamp amidst flints of sky-blue tone over champagne surfaces. For comparison, the next finest piece certified at NGC is an AU55. The last example of the type we have been able to locate brought roughly \$25,000 in June 2020, and it is highly unlikely that it was any finer than the present specimen.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 2365)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Appealingly Toned "Birthday" Multiple Taler

30237 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. August II 5 Taler 1666-HS AU55 NGC, Goslar or Zellerfeld mint, KM490, Dav-LS83, Knyphausen-432, Preussag Collection-75, Welter-780. 143.52gm. Henning Schlüter as mintmaster. With value stamp "5" on reverse. Struck for the 88th birthday of August II and depicting the Prince crowned by the personifications of Justice and Peace. August "The Younger" inherited the principality of Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel during the chaotic period of the Thirty Years' War, initially forced by circumstances to reside outside of his domains. Upon his relocation to Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel, he instituted a number of reforms, and among other things, founded the Bibliotheca Augusta, the largest collection of books and manuscripts north of the Alps at the time. This majestic offering, stamped with a "5" to the reverse to denote its 5-taler weight, retains an impressive and nearly full argent luster, the surfaces clad in a serene silver tone that evenly blankets the fields, while darker hues grip the raised features to an accentuating effect. With only the slightest touches of friction and rub traceable throughout, this imposing issue must necessarily be recognized for both its laudable quality and undeniable rarity.

Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000



Gorgeous Cabinet-Toned 4 Taler

30238 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. Rudolf August 4 Taler 1679 MS61 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM534, Dav-LS100, Knyphausen-566, Preussag Collection-103, Welter-1831. 113.09gm. Rudolf Bornemann as mintmaster. With value stamp "4" on reverse. An enthralling visual presentation of this immensely gratifying taler multiple, featuring a full palette of mint iridescence over the fields. While strike weakness is nearly absent from the designs, those few areas where it does appear are altogether inconsequential. According to Duve's 1974 work, a mere four examples of this design are known in 4 Taler weight. In our research, we have only been able to locate a few others of this type, riddled with contact marks or a loss of detail over the devices. Such is hardly the case here, as this specimen easily excels within its MS61 designation. A coin that should be viewed in hand to appreciate its full beauty. For the sake of comparison, we note that the Preussag specimen brought nearly \$50,000 in October 2015.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



30239 Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. Rudolf August 4 Taler 1685-HH/RB AU58 NGC, Zellerfeld mint, KM565, Dav-LS110a, Duve-4, Knyphausen-Unl., Knigge-745, Preussag Collection-108, Welter-1833. 104.24gm. Variety with overpunched mintmaster's initials. A beautifully toned representative of this Rudolf August multiple taler, depicting a lute player standing on a snail, with a picturesque city and country view in the background. Glossy luster and design motifs that have been minimally impacted by wear confirm a strong level of preservation for the type, as a spectacular arrangement of iridescent coloration frames the obverse periphery, gripping the raised design motifs. Rarely seen as a type, particularly so in this visually impressive state, with a clear "4" stamp to the reverse indicating the large denomination.

Ex. Dr. Busso Peus Nachfolger Auction 373 (October 2002, Lot 2535)

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000

COLOGNE



30240 Cologne. Free City “Three Kings” 3 Taler ND (c. 1620-1630) MS61 NGC, Cologne mint, KM-Unl. (cf. KM364 for 2 Taler), cf. Dav-LSA266 (different dies), Noss-78b, Weiler-465. 87.59gm. Of the highest rarity, this imagery-laden emission has long puzzled numismatists. Older scholarship originally supposed that the type belonged to the early 16th century, though based on die comparisons to contemporary issues, Noss has argued that it belongs to the beginning of the Baroque age, between 1620 and 1630; the date on the holder appears to be a misidentification with Noss-445 and 446, which share similar dies with Dav-LSA266. He has also proposed (cf. *Zeitschrift für Numismatik* 33) that it might represent the work of a Cologne goldsmith rather than an emission of the official mint in the city. Nevertheless, the present example has been rendered with pinpoint precision, as luster catches salt-gray elements over the surfaces. Our research has brought to light only one other example in recent sales records (UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 72, September 2007, Lot 240), with Noss knowing of only 6 specimens in total.

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



EICHSTÄTT



The Only Known Example in Private Hands

30241 Eichstätt. Johann Conrad von Gemmingen gold 8 Ducat 1596-VM UNC Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, Nürnberg mint, KM-MB40 (Rare), Fr-901 (Very rare; this coin), von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., cf. Wilmersdörffer-4603 (14 Ducat), Cahn-42e, Gebert-27f. 27.44gm. Valentin Maler as mintmaster. Bishop's miter above adjacent arms of Eichstätt and Gemmingen, date between near bottom, titles of Johann Conrad surrounding / Crowned imperial eagle, titles of Rudolf II surrounding. An enormous 8 Ducat struck from the same dies as the Taler issues of that year (KM-MB33, also rare) by Valentin Maler—one of the most important medallists of the late Renaissance, well-known for his portraits of Nürnberg dignitaries, clerics, and members of the court of Saxony. Likely produced in accordance with his consecration as Prince-Bishop on 2 July 1595, as this is the only date known across all of his coinage, neither Weege, in his *Deutsche Münzen 800-2000*, nor the *Deutsches Münzpreis-Jahrbuch* record any sales for this issue, nor for any emissions of Johann Conrad for that matter. As such, this type is extraordinarily rare. In 1885, at the time of publishing his study, *Die Münzen und Medaillen des ehemaligen Hochstiftes Eichstätt*, Gebert knew of only a single specimen in the Vienna Coin Cabinet—fully suggesting that this present piece is the only example available to collectors, and its previous selling price of 110,000 Euros in 2003 aptly demonstrates this. Entirely uncirculated, with fully intact luster and fresh surfaces that do little to disclose their true age. As such, the overall appearance of this selection is that of a near-choice specimen. The designation of “Obverse Graffiti” likely refers to the engraved “VIII” that appears in the fields above the miter, a denotation of value that is almost certainly contemporary and may be considered relatively inconsequential.

Ex. Künker Auction 80 (March 2003, Lot 2068)

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000

FULDA



Majestic 8 Ducat of Adolph von Dalberg

30242 Fulda. Adolph von Dalberg gold 8 Ducat 1729 MS60 NGC, KM75, Fr-1051 (Very Rare), von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., Reimmann-Unl., Schön-43. 27.66gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM74.1). A remarkable medallic presentation, certainly to be counted amongst the rarest emissions of the abbey. Reportedly just 5 taler-sized gold issues were produced throughout its entire history, 4 of which belong to the reign of Adolph. Struck to specifications that can only be described as special-purpose, when set against the other known 8 Ducat from Adolph's tenure, dated 1737 and presumed unique, the present piece seems to suggest a monetary, rather than purely presentational, purpose— its rims decorated with finely formed denticles, rather than the flat, squared-off shape seen on more “medallic” issues such as the 1737. On the whole, the designs conform to his regular circulating coinage series, though with a deeply impressed and careful execution. These features may in fact suggest that such pieces laid at the heart of the vast sums that the abbot certainly would have expended in expanding Fulda's University and hospital, projects for which he would be memorialized. It would certainly be no stretch to see a coin of this weight easing in accounting and payments of the time, when its purchasing power alone must have been immense.

Despite only being designated as “Very Rare” by Friedberg (still no minor feat) whereas the 1737 8 Ducat is listed as “Unique,” we would note that both pieces previously appeared at auction within 4 years of one another. While the 1737 brought 46,000 CHF in September 2007 at its last auction appearance, this coin achieved 96,000 CHF, clearly pointing to its superior desirability and utter scarcity on par with other key rarities of the series.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 56 (January 2003, Lot 1115)
Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



FÜRSTENBERG-STUHLINGEN



Ex. Brand Fürstberg Mining 3 Taler

30243 Fürstberg-Stuhlingen. Josef Wenzel "Mining" 3 Taler 1767-ARW MS61+ NGC, Stuttgart mint, KM18, Dav-LS277, Dollinger-32, Müseler-19/10, Preussag Collection-340. 87.67gm. By Adam Rudolph Werner. Struck to celebrate the yield of the St. Wenceslaus mine near Wolfach. A series which always inspires interest among German collectors, the talers and taler multiples with mining themes belong to a class all their own. In many cases, however, their popularity has left many examples carelessly handled or with obvious wear. Certainly one of the lesser-encountered entries of this genre, this imposing 3 Taler of Fürstberg almost certainly ranks alongside the finest known survivors of the issue. Bathed in a playful iridescence that can only be the consequence of long-time and careful cabinet storage, this coin instantly captivates. Its surfaces show only trace amounts of cabinet friction, while a few hairline adjustments are noted to the right of St. Wenceslaus. The only certified piece, examples of the issue are known to rapidly escalate in rarity as they approach uncirculated condition, with the Hohenkubin piece, the next finest we have been able to locate, bringing 40,000 Euros in February 2014.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 2595); Virgil Brand Collection (Hans Schulman New York Auction, March 1964, Lot 1832)

Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000

HAMBURG



30244 Hamburg. Free City gold Medallion "Town Hall Cornerstone" Portugalöser of 10 Ducats (100 Marks) MS63 NGC, Gaed-2297, Vogel-8879. 42mm. 36.60gm. By J. Lorenz. Struck to commemorate the laying of the foundation stone of the new town hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1842. This large medallion issue features the seated figure of Hammonia with Hamburg city arms, opposite an elaborate view of the new town hall. Deeply reflective, with a few scattered marks that are commensurate with the assigned grade. Absolutely scarce so fine.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 2617)

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000

HANAU-LICHTENBERG



One of Only Two 10 Ducats Minted for Hanau-Lichtenberg, Unique for this Date

30245 Hanau-Lichtenberg. Philipp Reinhard gold 10 Ducat 1695 AU58 NGC, Heidelberg or Darmstadt mint, KM105 (Rare; this coin), Fr-1150 (Unique), Suchier-Unl., Reimmann-Unl., Henneberg Collection-Unl. 34.33gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM103.1). A rare constellation of technical and historic desirability among the many emissions from the German States. Entirely unknown to Suchier in 1897, at the time that his foundational study on the coinage of Hanau was published, the type was also missing from Joseph Hamburger's October 1908 sale of his collection. Even Davenport only states that "[t]here is a taler of 1688 known only in gold" (pg. 217) with no indication whatsoever that he knew of this piece.

One of only two multiple ducats struck throughout the entire history of Hanau-Lichtenberg—both presumed unique—it is likely no accident that their production occurred during the reign of Philipp Reinhard. One of his principal aims, after reaching his majority in 1687, was a thoughtful territorial and fiscal policy meant to undo the ruin brought to his house by the careless escapades of his uncle, Friedrich Casimir, during the Thirty Years' War. And what a magnificent testament to the young Duke's commitment! Featuring one of the only city views of Lichtenberg on a contemporary coin, the scene preserved on the reverse is absolutely breathtaking—a cherub among the clouds, presenting a banner inscribed with HANAU, the duchy's arms flanked by lions below, and the cityscape in-between. What is perhaps even more intriguing is that the obverse legends appear to have been double struck, with a major rotation of the dies—the RE of REIN visible beneath the TZ of MVNTZ. Speculating on the value of such a unique piece seems an impossible task, though, for reference, Friedberg records this coin last being sold in Zurich in 1992, where it brought an incredible 96,000 CHF.

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



HANAU-MÜNZENBERG



30246 Hanau-Münzenberg. Friedrich Casimir silver Medal 1658-Dated AU55 NGC, Suchier-469, Reimmann-5072. 58mm. 28.27gm. Date in chronogram. Struck to the weight of 1-1/2 Talers on the laying of the foundation stone of the Lutheran Church in Hanau in the presence of Prince-Elector Johann Georg II of Saxony. An imposing and extremely rare medal that ties together the historical threads running from the Peace of Augsburg in 1555 through the Peace of Westphalia in 1648 that ended the Thirty Years' War. Featuring an incredibly intricate scene of the Lutheran Church aboard an ark, this specimen appears admirably preserved, the fields still lustrous and lightly toned without any traces of cleaning and only minimal die strain. The nearest example we have been able to locate sold for 19,000 CHF in December 2019.

Like the remainder of the House of Hanau-Lichtenberg, Friedrich Casimir was a Lutheran. The territories of Hanau-Münzenberg which he inherited in 1642, however, had long been Calvinist, in keeping with the Augsburg principle of cuius regio, eius religio ("whose realm, their religion"). Friedrich permitted the Calvinists to retain their religion, a decision which meant that he was hardly able to hold Lutheran services for himself outside of his palace chapel until 1658, when he completed the church commemorated here, thanks to the substantial financial support of Johann Georg.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000

HESSE-CASSEL



30247 Hesse-Cassel. Moritz 2 Taler 1627-TS AU Details (Mount Removed) NGC, Kassel mint, KM119 (this coin), Dav-LS311, Hoffmeister-758. 57.26gm. Terenz Schmidt as mintmaster. An entrancing specimen of nearly medallion proportions. The noted mount removal has hardly disturbed the surfaces, elevating its appeal, and allowing the viewer to enjoy the handsomely executed designs throughout. Struck in the year of Moritz's death, we have been unable to find any sales records for this denomination, though the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* notes that a specimen in Harald Möller's Auction 10 of October 1992 (possibly this coin, though we have not been able to confirm this) realized \$20,800, clearly pointing to the supreme rarity of the issue.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



30248 Hesse-Cassel. Wilhelm V "Willow Tree" 2 Taler MDCXXXIII (1634)-TS AU58 NGC, Kassel mint, KM147, Dav-LS316, Hoffmeister-991, Schütz-834. 56.86gm. Terenz Schmidt as mintmaster. Variety with IEHOVA spelling and houses in the reverse (obverse as holdered) scene. A scarce type laden with evocative imagery, its surfaces tinged to a smoky slate-gray that reveals notes of plum patina and golden toning accents when turned from end to end under the light. Minted during the ravages of the Thirty Years' War, the reverse scene of a tempest battering a large willow tree was meant as an allegory for the effects of the conflict on Hesse-Cassel, as Wilhelm V had been a Calvinist and supported Sweden during the War, leading to the occupation and the devastation of his territories by the Holy Roman Emperor. At present, this virtually Mint State selection is the finest of just two certified by NGC, with none yet achieving uncirculated status.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000

HESSE-DARMSTADT



Unique Medallion 27 Ducat of Ernst Ludwig - Roth's Magnum Opus

30249 Hesse-Darmstadt. Ernst Ludwig gold Medallion 27 Ducat 1701-R MS62+ NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Antoine-Feill Collection-Unl., Reimann-Unl., Hoffmeister-Unl., Schütz-2831 (this piece cited). 57mm. 96.54gm. By Johann C. Roth. An exquisite offering that immediately draws in the viewer, this massive 27 Ducat of Ernst Ludwig I is, by all indications, unique. Appearing more like a special commemorative medal than a coin produced either for presentation or circulation, we have been unable to find records of such a piece coming to auction since the sale of this coin in 1973. The coinage of Ernst Ludwig, from the 1/4 Taler to the larger denominations, are generally considered quite challenging. Most of the entries in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, for instance, are simply marked as either, "Rare," or without price. The Hoffmeister and Wilmersdörffer collections contained a silver striking from this year, described as being of a similar design, though the obverse legend contained the Landgrave's ordinal, and both were of smaller size (Wilmersdörffer-6723: 55mm, Hoffmeister-3523: 35mm). Forrer, under his record for Roth, does not mention this medallion at all. Regardless, the lightly frosted features are beautifully situated against shimmering, glass-like fields, establishing this issue as a masterpiece of Roth's talent, and a likely contender for his magnum opus. We note that while NGC describes this piece as a 25 Ducat, it is actually of 27 Ducat-weight.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 80 (May 2001, Lot 413); Frankfurter Münzhandlung E. Button Auction 120 (January 1973, Lot 172) [cover lot]
Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



JÜLICH-BERG





An Immense Rarity of this Already Incredibly Challenging German Duke

30250 Jülich-Berg. Johann Wilhelm von Pfalz-Neuburg gold Medallie 25 Ducat ND (c. 1678) AU55 NGC, Düsseldorf mint, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., cf. Exter-378 (weight of 6-1/8 Loth [89.52gm]), von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-4332 (RRRR; 3-1/2 Taler), Kull, “Eine goldene thalerförmige Medaille Johann Wilhelms” (Monatsblatt der Numismatischen Gesellschaft in Wien 1, 1891), pp. 71-72 (possibly citing this coin). 56mm. 86.51gm. By Nikolaus Longerich. An utterly fantastic “Schaustück” (presentation piece) from the reign Johann Wilhelm, a well-known patron of the arts and numismatics (“Münzfreund”), and produced in celebration of his (first) marriage to Archduchess Anna Josepha of Austria, daughter of Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand III, in 1678. A Duke whose regular issue coinage is incredibly scarce, the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* lists nearly every entry under his reign simply as “Rare.”

Knowledge of this product of Longerich did not emerge until the publishing of volume 2 of Friedrich Exter’s study of the Palatine coinage in the Churfürstliches Medaillen Museum in Mannheim in 1771, where he recorded an “immensely rare medal of 6-1/8 Loth” (pg. 475), which now resides in the Royal Coin Cabinet in Munich. A second example, described as a 3-1/2 Taler, was auctioned in the second part of the Ritter von Schluthess-Rechberg’sche Münz- und Medaillen-Sammlung sold by Erbstein in 1869. Both of these specimens, however, were executed in silver, and it was not until a short article by J. V. Kull was published in the 1891 volume 1 of the Monatsblatt der Numismatischen Gesellschaft in Vienna, that the existence of a gold piece with the weight of 25 Ducats emerged. According to our research, it does not appear that an example has come up for auction in recent memory, if at all, though the consignor reportedly knew of one other specimen. What is more, the piece offered here has suffered none of the damage so often incurred by such large and treasured celebratory pieces—its surfaces free of punctures, plugs, harsh cleaning or tooling while just a spot of red wax rests in the curls of the duke’s hair, likely a result of its use for a plate piece in a very old collection. Needless to say, a unique opportunity on all counts.

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



The First Example of the Type to Appear at Auction in Nearly a Decade

30251 Jülich-Berg. Karl Philipp von Pfalz-Neuburg gold 5 Ducat 1717 MS60 NGC, Düsseldorf mint, KM160, Fr-1407, von Soothe-Unl., von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., Noss-883. 17.23gm. Struck upon the relocation of the Duke's residence from Innsbruck to Neuburg. A decidedly rare type, and despite this offering's seemingly modest MS60 grade, a coin of distinctive beauty. While a light scattering of wisps are present over the fields, slightly dulling the overall luster, a notable flash continues to permeate the surfaces throughout. In particular, the reverse has a higher level of clarity, thanks to the protected crevices between the duke's crowned monogram and chain of the Order of the Golden Fleece.

To the best of our knowledge, only a single other specimen has traded hands at auction in the past decade or longer, which last brought 20,000 CHF in October 2012. This type was altogether missing from both Adolph Hess's May 1940 Auction 240 (a specialized collection of coins from Jülich) and Frankfurter Münzhandlung's May 1994 Auction 142 (also containing a considerable selection from the duchy).

Karl Philipp succeeded his older brother Johann Wilhelm as Elector Palatine, as well as Duke of Pfalz-Neuburg and Jülich-Berg, in 1716. Nevertheless, he continued to reside in Innsbruck until 1717, when he moved to Neuburg an der Donau, before settling in Heidelberg in 1718. Disdaining his brother's residence in Düsseldorf, after several years of trying to reform the churches of the city, he finally moved the capital of the Palatinate from Heidelberg to Mannheim in 1720.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000

MAINZ



Unique 10 Ducat of Georg Friedrich Long Missing from the Standard Literature

30252 Mainz. Georg Friedrich von Greiffenklau gold 10 Ducat 1629-LS/DA AU55+ NGC, Frankfurt am Main mint, KM-Unl., Fr-1642a (Unique), Würdtwein-Unl., Heiligenberger-Unl., cf. "Die churfürstlich mainzischen Münzen und Medaillen neuerer Zeit" (Numismatische Zeitung 31, no. 11, May 1864) pg. 84 (not listed), von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., Prinz Alexander-Unl., Walther Collection-Unl. 34.29gm. By Lorenz Schilling. Daniel Avrer as mintmaster. With date and mintmaster's initials on sleeve (misabeled as undated on the holder). Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM40, Dav-5543). By all measures, a unique striking in gold from this already very rare set of Taler dies. Entirely missing from the standard literature on Mainz coinage dating back to Stephan Würdtwein's *Mainzer Münzen*, published in 1769, its first appearance was apparently noted in Friedberg, though no illustration is provided.

Although we can say relatively little about the precise circumstances that could have led to the production of this piece, it is interesting to note that Forrer, in his entry for the engraver, states that Schilling's medals, "do not display very great skill [but] are nevertheless praiseworthy productions, considering the time of decadence when they were executed." Indeed, when placing the engravings of the present offering up against other known taler dies from Georg Friedrich's short reign, the softened realism and lifelike qualities of Schilling's work immediately stand out. What is more, the execution of this specimen is highly precise and easily distinguishable from the one illustrated taler by Schilling that we have been able to locate (provided by Davenport), which showed a slightly off-center strike. Quite clearly a veritable "gem" of the series, and one that should command bidder attention.

A staunch supporter of Emperor Ferdinand II during the Thirty Years' War, Georg Friedrich is perhaps best known for his authorship of the Edict of Restitution in 1627, a document formally passed in 1629 after a series of Catholic successes meant to undo the verdicts of the Peace of Augsburg of 1555. Perhaps it is no coincidence that this event coincides with the dating of the present multiple ducat. Lorenz Schilling, the die engraver, indeed operated out of the city of Frankfurt, the classical seat and location of the coronation for the Holy Roman Emperor, and, as Forrer points out, one of Schilling's previous productions had been a series of ducats, talers, and 1/2 talers meant to commemorate the foundation of the Schloss Johannisburg, which from 1614 served as the second residence of the Prince-Bishop of Mainz. Might it be possible that this very coin was commissioned by the grateful Catholic Emperor as a reward for Georg Friedrich's unwavering support?

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 267 (May 1996, Lot 479); Adolph E. Cahn (March 1918, Lot 150)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



30253 Mainz. Anselm Franz Medallion 2 Taler 1695-AK MS63+ NGC, KM218, Dav-LS349, Prinz Alexander-603 var. (there, in tin). 57.67gm. A captivating example of this “Schautaler” type, depicting Anselm Franz von Ingelheim, Archbishop-Elector of Mainz from 1679 to 1695, and specially produced with great attention to detail, as evidenced by the medallion and high-relief features that comprise the intricate design motifs. Possessing a marvelous iridescence, with sharp glints of luster expressed through emerald and sunset hues that blanket the surfaces. The first example of this compelling type that we have seen, and the only example certified to date.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



Perhaps the Finest Known Anselm Franz 5 Ducat

30254 Mainz. Anselm Franz gold 5 Ducat (1/2 Portugalöser) 1682-MF MS63 NGC, Mainz mint, KM-A184 (this coin), Fr-1662, Würdtwein-Unl., Heiligenberger-Unl., von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., cf. Prinz Alexander-563 (10 Ducat), Walther Collection-Unl. 17.26gm. Mathias Fischer as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM181). A simply fantastic coin that blows the competition out of the water. In recent years, we have only been able to locate two other examples to sell at auction—one which was holed and the other showing clear circulation wear. The current specimen, however, contains a glassy radiance that permeates every inch of the fields, and designs that have been rendered with a definitive strike. Interestingly, Friedberg calls the 10 Ducat of the same design, “Rare,” but makes no mention of the rarity of the 5 Ducat. Further, this denomination was altogether missing from the Prinz Alexander Collection (which contained a specimen of the 10 Ducat), though admittedly two other examples in 10 Ducat-weight have appeared at auction in the last decade. Needless to say, a coin whose conditional rarity can hardly be disputed.

Ex. Künker Auction 80 (March 2003, Lot 2237); Ludwig Grabow Auction 1 (May 1921, Lot 237)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Exquisite 'Star'-Graded Prooflike 25 Ducat

30255 Mainz. Philipp Karl von Eltz-Kempenich gold Medallic 25 Ducat 1740 MS63★ Prooflike NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., cf. Würdtwein-491 (in silver), Heiligenberger-Unl., cf. Belli Collection-1135 (in silver), Reimmann-2364 (same), Prinz Alexander-663 (same), Walther Collection-Unl. 86.96gm. By Becker (possibly Philipp Christoph Becker). A flashy specimen whose impressive weight and broad execution instantly draw in the viewer. Seemingly unpublished in this metal, though a medal of the same layout has been described in the Belli, Reimmann, and Prinz Alexander collections, as well by Würdtwein. The natural beauty of this offering is on full display—its designs rise in mountainous relief against the surrounding fields, having been rendered in exquisite detail down to the smallest, texturized elements of Prince-Archbishop's robes.

Though we have been unable to find a purpose for which this type may have been produced, its historical context may contain some clues. By 1740, the War of the Austrian Succession was just beginning, only two years after the conclusion of the War of the Polish Succession, during which Mainz had allied itself with the Habsburg cause. The ongoing conflict may indeed have provided the occasion and verse for the reverse citation from Psalm 22, which reads: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want," suggesting that the belligerents should return to the fold and end their quarreling. Further, there is some mystery as to the identification of the artist, though Forrer notes that Philipp Christoph Becker, who also designed medals for Franz Ludwig von Pfalz-Neuburg, changed his signature to D. Becker on his later products. In all cases, the present offering appears unique, and is of the utmost rarity as such.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



A Unique Relic from the War of the First Coalition

30256 Mainz. Friedrich Karl Joseph von Erthal gold Medallic 15 Ducat 1795-FS/IA MS62★ Prooflike NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-1683 (Unique), Heiligenberger-Unl., von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., Reimmann-Unl., Hoffmeister-Unl., Prinz Alexander-Unl., cf. Hennin-683 (composition and size not indicated, though likely silver), Walther Collection-Unl. 52.29gm. By August Friedrich Stieler. Joseph Aatz as wardein. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM409). Almost certainly unique and an ideal canvas in gold, the designation of Prooflike seemingly an understatement, as mirrorlike reflectivity effortlessly glides over the surfaces. Every element of the design points to a full medallion preparation; hardly a surprise given what must have been a joyful celebration at Field Marshal Count Clerfayt's relief of the city of Mainz from the French siege under Jean-Baptiste Jourdan during the War of the First Coalition. Perhaps this event even provided the occasion for this specific off-metal striking, which may have been produced as a gift for an important participant in the conflict.

Our research reveals the absence of this type from institutional and private collections that have come to auction in the last several decades—with no records whatsoever recorded by the *Deutsches Münzpreis- Jahrbuch*. Thus, a coin worthy of increased attention, and sure to inspire a flurry of bidding as it crosses the auction block.

A key series of conflicts during the early years of the Revolutionary French Republic, the so-called War of the First Coalition marked a turning point in the history of Western Europe. Following the events of the French Revolution during the prior several years, on 27 August 1791, the Habsburg Holy Roman Emperor Leopold II and Friedrich Wilhelm II of Prussia declared their joint support of King Louis XVI by the Declaration of Pillnitz. Fearing foreign invasion as numerous powers plotted to take portions of France, draconian measures employed within the country led to massacres and internal strife. Produced from this, in April of 1793, was the Committee of Public Safety, whose levies on potential soldiers and the declaration of war against the foreign powers united the French people and led to territorial advance beyond France. While this most significantly led to the formation of the Batavian Republic, it also saw the major French defeat at the Battle of Mainz on 29 October 1795, where the ineffectual French siege that began 11 months prior, in December 1794, was repelled thanks to the support of the Austrian troops under Count Clerfayt, likely also aided by the betrayal of French commander Jean-Charles Pichegru. Thanks to the reversal, French expansion was limited to the left bank of the Rhine, formally recognized by Prussia under the first Peace of Basel.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



MANSFELD-ARTERN



30257 Mansfeld-Artern. Volrat VI, Wolfgang III & Johann Georg II 2 Taler 1626-AK XF45 NGC, Eisleben mint, KM112, Dav-6961, Torna-734a. 55.62gm. Anton Koburger as mintmaster. Decidedly rare as a type, not least in this technical quality. The overall appearance of this offering, particularly the obverse, appears finer than the given designation, and quite clearly surpasses the Torna plate coin in both eye appeal and preservation. We have only been able to locate two other examples sold at auction in recent years, and no others are noted in the *Deutsches Münzpreis-Jahrbuch*. Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000

MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN



30258 Mecklenburg-Schwerin. Adolf Friedrich I 2 Taler 1613-(b) MS62 NGC, Gadebusch mint, KM27, Dav-LS35, Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Gaettens Collection-187, Popken Collection-Unl. 56.35gm. Utterly captivating to say the least, this near-choice “fortune” (glück) multiple taler combines both absolute and conditional rarity in the most splendid format. Altogether missing from the famed Wilmersdörffer and Popken collections, the present offering boasts an incredible level of detail, with hardly any flatness or doubling to the designs and an icy patina that brightens both sides of the flan.
Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000



MEMMINGEN



Unique Memmingen “Regimentstaler” Struck in Gold to 10 Ducat-Weight

30259 Memmingen. Free City gold Medallion 10 Ducat 1623 MS62+ NGC, KM-M2 (Rare; this coin), Fr-1742 (Unique), Wilmersdörffer-Unl., cf. Madai-2284 (for taler), Sedlmaier Collection-10299 (same), von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-7118 (R; same). 35.81gm. Johannes Vogel as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM-M1). Few coins can claim to be the artistic equal of the specimen on offer here. Its beauty is distinguished not only by its phenomenal imagery—the obverse (as holdered) bearing a charming city view of Memmingen, while the reverse contains the arms of the three mayors and two city councilors (Ehringer, Haintzel, Koch, Sättelin, and Jenisch) surrounded by the 14 heraldic shields of the other participants in the council—but also by the utter superiority of its preservation, very much on the cusp of choice certification.

Graced with a harvest-gold and honey patina that intensifies amidst the reverse shields, “Regimentstalers” such as this, (so-named for the local government, usually struck in silver) were very likely produced as tokens of the city’s allegiance to the Imperial cause following the crushing defeat of Friedrich V at the Battle of White Mountain in 1620; types of the same class are also known from Ulm, Augsburg, Konstanz, and Ravensburg from the early 1620s. Renowned for their depictions of sweeping cityscapes, entries in the series come highly contested, and this appears to be the sole representative of any city to have been produced in gold. It is hardly a stretch of the imagination to envision this coin as a gift for a distinguished official, ensuring it a place of prominence in its next coin cabinet.

Ex. Guia Collection (Bowers & Merena, March 1988, Lot 158) [cover lot]
Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000

MÜNSTER



Gorgeous Medallic 4 Ducat Possibly Issued for the Peace of Westphalia

30260 Münster. Ferdinand von Bayern gold Medallic 4 Ducat ND (c. 1648) AU58 NGC, cf. KM40 (for taler), Fr-1765a var. (Very Rare; weight), Appel Collection-Unl., Grote-Unl., Lanna-Unl., Goppel-Unl., cf. Wittelsbach-1220 (for reverse [obverse as holdered]), Wilmersdörffer-9748 (same). 40mm. 15.30gm. By Engelbert Kettler(?). Struck from Schautaler dies (cf. KM40, Dav-5596). A piece of unmistakable beauty, even if its exact purposes and period of production remain elusive. Recorded in silver as a "Schautaler" by both the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and Davenport, the obverse (as holdered) depiction of the adoration of the Magi is also known from a firmly datable 5 Ducat of Ferdinand von Bayern of 1638. There it is paired with an obverse die more typical of the bishopric, showing St. Paul in the clouds above a city view of Münster (cf. Wittelsbach-1220), and known to have been designed by Kettler.

Under his entry, Davenport implies that the taler-form pieces of this design may have been issued for the Peace of Westphalia in 1648, certainly a momentous occasion that came towards the end of Ferdinand von Bayern's life, though neither a date nor direct allusion to the treaty (nor even Kettler's initials) are present on this piece. Perhaps of some interest, Wolfgang Pauker, in his study *Beiträge zur Baugeschichte des Stiftes Klosterneuburg*, notes that a medal of the same overall layout was among three coins or medals laid in the foundation stone of the Klosterneuburg in May 1730, though the composition is not stated (see pp. 66-69). To the best of our knowledge, this is the only such striking in gold that has appeared at auction in numerous decades, and it may well be unique.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



NÜRNBERG



Handsomely Designed 8 Ducat - One of Potentially Only 3 Known

30261 Nürnberg. Free City gold 8 Ducat 1721-PGN AU Details (Obverse Scratched) NGC, Nürnberg mint, KM287, Fr-1904 (Very Rare), Erlanger-Unl., Kellner-269. 27.81gm. With the name and titles of Karl VI. Paul Gottlieb Nürnberger as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM285). Date in chronogram. Instantly gratifying, this specimen arguably displays the finest dies ever conceived for the coinage of Nürnberg issued under Karl VI, featuring a spread-winged eagle wearing the crown of the Holy Roman Emperor and clutching the imperial orb and rod above a charming city view of Nürnberg. Postulated to be one of only two known examples in the original Hess-Divo listing from 2005 (though likely actually the third known, alongside the Kaselowsky piece [Rosenberg Auction 11, November 1907, Lot 2455] = Schweizerischer Bankverein Auction 13, January 1984, Lot 453; and Hess-Divo Auction 303 [October 2005, Lot 1338] = Stack's January 2019, Lot 40245).

This specimen showcases an admirable clarity of detail. The noted scratch, while inconvenient, in no way lessens the attractiveness of the designs, which are set against a thick plume of radiant reflectivity in the fields. Although scattered contact exists across the surfaces, this can also be seen on the other known example, which nonetheless achieved \$65,000 in January 2019. Interestingly, traces of die clashing can be seen beneath the first A in the reverse legend (where a retrograde from the G in AVG on the obverse appears), a feature shared with its sister piece, which reportedly stemmed from the Erlanger Collection (though it was missing from Leu's 1989 catalog of his collection).

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 301 (May 2005, Lot 299) [mistakenly stated in that listing as Ex. Kaselowsky Collection]

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000

PRUSSIA



Likely the Finest Known Speciestaler of Friedrich the Great

30262 Prussia. Friedrich II Restrike Speciestaler 1755-Dated (1787)-A MS64 NGC, Berlin mint, KM279 (Rare), Dav-2592, Marienburg-Unl., von Schrötter-1644, Neumann-293, Olding-369. Mintage: 16. A superb emission designed in the style of Northern German Rococo, this 1755-dated “species” taler of Friedrich the Great is arguably at the apex of the Prussian numismatic series. This challenging type is relentlessly pursued by modern collectors, though the initial issue, produced by Tobias Ernst, was met with disapproval from the King. He considered the style of the portraiture too rigid and stiff (steif), so the majority of the original mintage was melted.

In May of 1787, however, likely due to strong collector demand, Loos was authorized to reproduce the issue from the original dies, to a total number of just 16 pieces. The differences between the two are easily distinguished by their edges—the originals with a “leafed” edge design (Laubrand) and the restrikes with a reeded edge (Kerbrand). Gunther Hahn and Alfred Kernd’l were able to identify only three restrike examples that came to light after World War II, while the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* suggests only one original exists in the Berlin Münzkabinett (though Olding interestingly mentions three originals surviving).

Embellished with an ideal strike, this representative possesses all the trademarks of a specimen or Proof—its surfaces radiant with a glassy, hard-mirrored finish that overlays gunmetal and champagne patina. A spot of indigo tone near the base of the reverse only adds to the overall appeal. While a mere two examples have been certified by NGC to date, the fact that this coin ranks a full 24-grade points above the next finest (an XF40) is truly telling. It likely follows that this specimen may be the finest that exists. For reference, in February of 2018, another specimen achieved the equivalent of \$68,500 in a European sale, suggesting full well that this offering will soar to even greater heights.

Ex. Künker Auction 81 (March 2003, Lot 4499)
Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



QUEDLINBURG



30263 Quedlinburg. Dorothea von Sachsen Taler 1617-HL MS64 NGC, Quedlinburg mint, KM9, Dav-LS374, Schnee-638, Cappe-198. Struck on the Centennial of the Reformation. Heinrich Löhr as mintmaster. With HL initials written in ligature to left of arms. A conditional outlier by all metrics, and more importantly, a specimen without any traces of circulation wear. Beautified by impressive luster that reaches a crescendo on the reverse, this feature meeting opalescent hues that further secure its status as an ideal type coin. While only two specimens have been certified by NGC to date, the fact that the next finest ranks as a mere AU53 certainly gives a strong indication of the conditional rarity of this piece. The single-finest certified representative to date, and unsurprisingly so.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



Remarkable Quedlinburg 8 Ducat

30264 Quedlinburg. Dorothea von Sachsen gold 8 Ducat 1617-HL AU Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, Quedlinburg mint, KM14, Fr-2444 (Rare), Schnee-638, Cappe-198. 28.99gm. Struck from 2 Taler dies (cf. KM12) on the Centennial of the Reformation. Heinrich Löhr as mintmaster. Variety with HL initials written in ligature to left of arms. A rare and historically significant gold multiple from this already seldom-encountered abbey, produced just two years after it had been granted the right to issue its own coins in 1615. Standing as one of the first gold emissions struck in Quedlinburg, the type belongs to a 4-denomination series—the taler, 2 taler, 8 ducat and 10 ducat—produced shortly before Dorothea's premature death at the age of 26, and is posited by Cappe to have been minted in association with the Jubilee of the Reformation. Emblazoned with intricate details throughout the abbey arms and the figure of "the Fowler," Heinrich I, this impressive specimen stands as one of only three certified, and despite the notation of graffiti on the holder, its presence is extremely minor and unobtrusive. According to our research, only two other examples have appeared at auction in the last two decades, with Schnee recording only two auction appearances prior, and none noted in the *Deutsche Münzpreis-Jahrbuch*.

Estimate: \$25,000-\$35,000



REGENSBURG



Thirty Years' War "Reichstag" Medal

30265 Regensburg, Free City gold "Reichstag" Medal of 9 Ducats 1641 UNC Details (Repaired) NGC, Montenuovo-811, Plato-88, Catalogue de monnois en or du Cabinet Imperial-60. 30.96gm. By Hans Gebhard (?). With the name and titles of Ferdinand III. Commemorating the opening of the Reichstag in 1641. Obv. Crowned bust of Ferdinand III. Rev. Four-line inscription, and date, in a circle of the coats-of-arms of the seven electors. Struck on the Imperial Diet at Regensburg in 1641, where the Imperial Estates met to negotiate peace in the Thirty Years' War, a precursor to the negotiations later taking place at Münster and Osnabrück, that culminated in the final signing of the Peace of Westphalia in 1648. A very rare medallic issue with an appearance easily described as nothing less than exceptional. Sharp and lustrous, with a resounding and visually compelling tangerine and sunset-gold tone draped over the surfaces. Possibly repaired to the edge, though this is not visible in the current holder placement.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Star-Graded Prooflike 6 Ducat - One of a Mere 3 Struck

30266 Regensburg. Free City gold Medallie 6 Ducat ND (1745-1765)-ICB MS62★ Prooflike NGC, Regensburg mint, KM341 (Rare), Fr-2527, Plato-Unl., Bach Collection-Unl., Beckenbauer-215, VI. 20.88gm. Mintage: 3. By Johann Leonhard Öxlein. Johann Christoph Busch as mintmaster. With the name and titles of Franz I. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM318). An astonishing survivor in all regards. Coins struck in Regensburg during the reigns of Karl VII and Franz I are particularly renowned amongst collectors for their superior execution, medallie characteristics, and careful preservation. To find such a series rarity—with a mere 3 struck—presenting a mirrored sheen and corresponding “star” designation for superior eye appeal, truly represents a noteworthy opportunity. A thick frost overlays the sharp reliefs and wide rims, while reflectivity in the fields produces a nearly cameo finish. Produced to a level of painstaking precision, that this piece may have been intended for presentation purposes is instantly apparent.

Although the circumstances surrounding the production of this issue are far from clear, there is perhaps some chance that it may have been struck in association with the Treaty of Dresden, which ended the Second Silesian War in December 1745, and resolved the dispute over the possession of Silesia, primarily between Friedrich the Great of Prussia and Maria Theresa, Franz I’s wife. Forer indeed records from Öxlein a “Christmas Medal” of Franz commemorating this same occasion, and perhaps it is no coincidence that 3 of these 6 ducats were struck and that the Treaty was signed between three powers—Austria, Saxony, and Prussia. Is it possible that such coins were meant for the corresponding heads of state? Such a hypothesis certainly requires further research.

To our knowledge, only one other example has appeared at auction, lot 56 in UBS’s September 2004 Auction 60, cited by the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* (and plated in that reference) as realizing \$31,080. While the photos from that sale do not permit an accurate comparison of the condition of the two pieces, it is difficult to imagine that the present specimen is exceeded in its overall quality. Of the highest rarity.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



SAXE-JENA



**Ex. King Umberto II Collection 5 Ducat
- Presumed Unique in Private Hands**

30267 Saxe-Jena. Bernhard II gold 5 Ducat 1673-ABC MS63 NGC, Eisleben mint, KM-A16 (Unique, though stated as having ABK initials from the dies of KM14), Fr-2981 (Unique), Merseburger-Unl., Reimmann-Unl., Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Vogel Collection-Unl., Köhler Collection-Unl., Schnee-407 (this coin cited). 17.12gm. Anton Bernard Koburger as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM13). It's not uncommon for gold multiples to be missing from even the finest-assembled collections, though many of those rarities are trademarks of this very collection. Even further, specimens with this level of provenance are truly outliers, not only for the Paramount Collection, but among privately held coins in general. This offering is likely the sole representative in private hands, (with just one other example known in the Herzogliches Münzkabinett in Weimar), and it has been pedigreed to the collection of King Umberto II of Italy. To say that this Choice Mint State 5 Ducat represents a unique opportunity for even the most refined collectors of the German series would be a serious understatement.

Lavishly struck on a lustrous flan, the surfaces appear as fresh as the day they were struck. Closer inspection reveals hardly a stray mark of any serious consequence, while the Duke's portrait and reverse arms preserve a lightly stippled, frosty finish. The appearance of doubling is nearly absent from the design motifs, with the impression of the legends along the peripheries producing a gold foil-like quality to the surrounding luster.

A clear exemplification of baroque-style coin engraving, this second largest denomination produced in Saxe-Jena stands in stark contrast to the lower denomination issues of Bernhard II, which were produced with a relatively low fineness in order to profit the mint, following the minting principles of the second Kipperzeit (a period of rampant inflation and debasement of German coinage). Based on the generally higher standards of engraving and fineness of his talers, Tentzel and Frede have postulated that this particular 5 Ducat was likely produced on the occasion of the imperial enfeoffment of the houses of Gotha and Weimar with the Principalities of Altenburg and Coburg on November 24, 1673.

Ex. Künker Auction 80 (March 2003, Lot 2656); King Umberto of Italy Collection (Hans Schulman New York Auction, November 1967, Lot 532)
Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000

SAXONY



Extremely Rare “Magdeburg” Commemorative 3 Taler - Only the Fourth Known Specimen

30268 Saxony. Johann Friedrich II 3 Taler 1539 AU58 NGC, Buchholz mint, Dav-A9724 var. (additional clover to upper right of arms, MAGD title on obverse), Merseburger-Unl., Köhler Collection-335, Schnee-85. 88.70gm. Struck upon Johann Friedrich the Magnanimous' acquisition of the Burggraviate of Magdeburg. Likely amongst the rarest issues of Johann Friedrich's reign, this commemorative “Schautaler” almost certainly represents the finest surviving specimen of the type. Its execution is unmistakably medallionic in nature, with a mottled patina over icy surfaces that intensify to a fantastic degree on the reverse. Purportedly, this selection is one of only four known for the denomination, together with a piece auctioned by Künker in January 2013 (Auction 223, Lot 507), the Köhler example (Henry Seligmann December 1929, Lot 335), and a single piece in the Hermitage, distinguished from the “regular” 3 Taler of 1539 by its addition of the Magdeburg title on the obverse and more intricately garnished arms on the reverse. As such, it appears that this is only the second representative to become available in nearly 100 years, with the last specimen having sold for the equivalent of nearly \$33,000 in 2013.

Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000





Utterly Stunning 10 Ducat Struck on the Death of Christian II

30269 Saxony. Christian II gold Medallion “Death” 10 Ducat 1611 MS65★ NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-2648 (Very Rare; this coin), Merseburger-Unl., Dassdorf-Unl., Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Vogel Collection-6741, Schnee-779, cf. Baumgarten-153 (Very Rare; recorded as 7-5/8 Ducat-weight). 34.22gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. Schnee-779). An exacting type that more than earns its Gem Mint State “star” designation. Truly medallion in nature, the high-relief designs are beautifully set against watery harvest-gold surfaces. The offering features one of the most contested obverse designs of the German series, with the Prince-Elector featured in a half-length, armored style aside his helmet. Although Merseburger, Dassdorf, and Wilmersdörffer all contained an example of this “death” commemorative in silver (referenced as a medal), we have only been able to locate two occurrences of the issue in this gold 10 Ducat-weight at auction: one in the above-mentioned Vogel sale (Adolph Hess October 1928), and the other recorded by Schnee in *Münzen & Medaillen* AG Basel’s Auction 7 (June 1977, Lot 130), with no additional sales records in the ensuing 40+ years, according to our research. With hardly a trace of handling observed over the surfaces, it seems likely that this commendable representative was carefully stored away not long after it was first struck. Truly a fitting final testament to Christian II’s reign, and worthy of a premium bid.

Estimate: \$80,000-\$120,000



30270 Saxony. Johann Georg 12 Taler 1652-CR MS61 NGC, Dresden mint, KM443, Dav-7613, Dassdorf-808, Merseburger-1100 (RR), Schnee-888. 58.09gm. Constantin Rothe as mintmaster. Notably rare condition for this enticing three-quarters bust type, embellished with a striking mint glow that catches hints of russet and peach tone as it rolls over the surfaces. Only the second example of this issue that we have ever handled, and to date the only specimen to have been certified. In fact, this type rarely appears in the marketplace. A survey of recent auction records reveals that there have only been five examples of this scarce 2 Taler to have recently sold—at least three of which showed clear signs of circulation rub, while one of the others exhibited the usual expansive planchet flaws encountered on coins of this time period. Thankfully neither of these issues affect the offering seen here, pointing to a visual presence that must be seen to be fully appreciated.

Ex. Dr. Busso Peus Nachfolger Auction 370 (November 2001, Lot 3188)

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



30271 Saxony. Johann Georg I gold Ducat 1617 MS62 NGC, Dresden mint, KM109, Fr-2663, Whiting-70. 3.45gm. Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 95 Theses. Produced by a well-centered strike on a lustrous butter-gold flan carrying rich aurous brilliance across the entirety of the surfaces. A popular type for its historical connotations, and an impressive artifact in this decidedly Mint State condition.

Estimate: \$1,500-\$2,000





Potentially the First Auction Appearance of this Extremely Rare 10 Ducat Type in Over 50 Years

30272 Saxony. Johann Georg I gold 10 Ducat (Portugalöser) 1628-HI UNC Details (Plugged) NGC, Dresden mint, KM-B418 (Rare), Fr-2690 (Very Rare), Merseburger-Unl., Dassdorf-Unl., Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Vogel Collection-Unl., Schnee-849, Baumgarten-263 (Very Rare, “never before cited”). 34.95gm. Hans Jacob as mintmaster. Struck from 2 Taler dies (cf. KM391). A series which inspires immense interest among collectors. Seldom offered at auction, Saxon gold multiples from the time of the Thirty Years’ War are, without exception, exceedingly rare. For this 10 Ducat in particular, Schnee knew of only two examples—one recorded by Joseph Baumgarten in his seminal study from 1812 (in the Herzogliches Münzkabinett in Gotha), and a single piece in the Hermitage Museum. To that, we can add the far inferior specimen sold as lot 136 of Hess-Leu’s Goldprägungen auction of October 1962.

While the present specimen does admit a minor repair around 12 o’clock, almost certainly associated with its prized status and past use for personal adornment, the remainder of the coin seems to have survived nearly 400 years virtually unscathed. The fields remain highly lustrous and wholly original, layered in a satin texture over deeply impressed design motifs. By all indications, the first auction appearance for the type of which we are aware since 1962, and a coveted opportunity as such.

While the exact circumstances for the production of this multiple ducat remain elusive to us, perhaps some insight can be gained through its imagery and situation within Johann Georg’s wider coinage. While virtually all of the early coins from his sole reign depicted the Duke in full armor as a warrior-prince (save for a few talers of 1612, issued following the death of his brother; and co-ruler Christian II), his coinage from 1617 featured him as Prince-Elector (Kurfürst), wearing the electoral robes, cap, and carrying the electoral sword. Following a brief interlude between his Reformation Centennial issues and those of the vicariate, the electoral portraiture resumed in 1626-1628, Johann Georg having thrown his support behind the Catholic Emperor, Ferdinand I, in conjunction with Luther’s instruction to “follow the powers that be.” It is possible that the imagery here was meant to reassert his public image as the leader of the German Lutherans, particularly as his unease towards imperial policy began to mount, capped off by Ferdinand’s Edict of Restitution in 1629.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



Apparently Unique Gold Multiple for this Date

30273 Saxony. Johann Georg I gold 18 Ducat 1627-HI UNC Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, Dresden mint, KM-Unl., cf. Fr-2689 (Very Rare; 16 Ducat), Merseburger-Unl., Dassdorf-Unl., Vogel Collection-Unl., Köhler Collection-Unl., Wilmersdorffer-Unl., Schnee-Unl., cf. Baumgarten-259 (16-1/2 Ducat). 62.44gm. Hans Jakob as mintmaster. Struck from 2 Taler dies (cf. KM392). A thoroughly impressive type, with this weight entirely missing from the standard literature (which typically cites the 1627 gold multiples at only 16 ducat-weight). However, this seemingly unique denomination is reaffirmed by the Roman numerals "XVIII," which have been inscribed into the obverse of the coin in two places. Despite several dings along the edges and grazes over the surfaces, this specimen retains a full degree of detail, without even a trivial amount of rub, leaving the devices fully struck and surrounded by luster. Baumgarten, citing Tentzel, suggested that this type may have been produced to celebrate the marriage nuptials of his eldest daughter, Sophie Eleonore, with Landgrave Georg of Hessen on 1 April 1627 in Torgau. Apparently missing from auction records—even the *Deutsches Münzpreis- Jahrbuch* has not cited an auction occurrence since the 90s—we can only suspect that this weight for the date is unique, as the consignor indeed posited.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



30274 Saxony. Johann Georg I gold “Marriage of Magdalena Sibylla to Christian, Prince-Elector of Denmark” Medal of 10 Ducats 1635 AU58
 NGC, cf. Merseburger-1146 (listed only in silver), Dassdorf-772 (composition not stated, though likely silver), Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Grund-W 1635/02.
 48mm. 34.53gm. By Paul Welter. Struck for the marriage of Johann Georg’s youngest daughter, Magdalena Sibylla, to Crown Prince Christian (son of King Christian IV) of Denmark. A most laudable marriage type, which was apparently absent from the numismatic cabinets of Merseburger, Dassdorf, Wilmersdörffer, and Hede in this metal. The present specimen has been carefully preserved, just a few stray signs of contact and some light friction atop the highest features that preclude a Mint State designation. We have only been able to locate one other example at auction in recent decades, which brought 11,000 Euros in June 2004.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



30275 Saxony. Johann Georg II "Vicariat" 2 Taler 1657 MS63+ NGC, Dresden mint, KM460, Dav-LS398 (Dav-7629), Merseburger-1149, Schnee-897. 58.44gm. Constantin Rothe as mintmaster. Unsurprisingly, this is the single finest example of this extraordinary multiple taler type currently certified at both NGC and PCGS combined. The surfaces, still beaming with luster, possess a nearly specimen-like quality that overlays thick cabinet patina, while the devices are rendered in a spectacularly medalllic fashion. To date, this is only the third specimen of this denomination-date we have handled, with the last, an MS62, bringing \$6600 when it crossed the auction block in January 2019.

Ex. Künker Auction 86 (September 2003, Lot 1786)

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



30276 Saxony. Johann Georg II 3 Taler 1661 MS61 NGC, Dresden mint, KM497, Dav-LS400, cf. Dassdorf-852 (2 Taler), Merseburger-2651 (same), Vogel Collection-Unl., Schnee-911. 87.18gm. Constantin Rothe as mintmaster. Struck upon the laying of the foundation stone for the chapel in the Schloss Moritzburg. Rarely offered, and by all indications a fleeting denomination for this Grundsteinlegung commemorative. Though Schnee recorded a handful of examples appearing at auction, this type was missing from the collections of Dassdorf, Merseburger, and Vogel. Surely a fitting homage to the chapel designed by Wolf Kaspar von Klengel, also the architect behind the famous Semperoper in Dresden. Possessing an ideal cabinet appearance, the obverse exhibits a mottled layer of smoky tone, while the reverse emits an icy, salt-white flash. For the sake of completeness, a few minor scratches are noted beneath the prayer book, likely precluding a finer designation, though they seamlessly blend into their surroundings.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



Imposing and Extremely Rare Shooting Klippe

30277 Saxony. Johann Georg II Klippe 3 Taler 1676-DO MS60 NGC, Dresden mint, KM555 (Rare), Dav-LS409, Dassdorf-905, Merseburger-Unl., Vogel Collection-6942, Wilmsdörffer-Unl., Schnee-949. 88.95gm. By Ernst Caspar Dürr and Martin Heinrich Omeis. Struck to celebrate the shooting festival in Dresden, held in honor of Queen Magdalena Sibyl. Certainly, one of the most impressive klippes produced under the Albertine Dynasty, embellished with the anthropomorphizations of Fortuna (Fortune) and Spes (Hope) flanking a bird's perch from which an eagle takes flight. Produced for the Prince-Elector's (Kurprinz) honoring of his mother, making her the "Queen of the Shooting" (Schützenkönigin), the type, described by the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* simply as "Rare," was notably missing from both the Merseburger and Wilmsdörffer collections. The remnants of an inked number—appearing to the cataloger as 291—is likely an inventory designation from a previous numismatic cabinet. Lightly handled in-line with the designation, the piece nonetheless retains a full display of detail, rub totally absent from the highpoints, while the edges remain sharp and free of any signs of past mounting. For reference, only three pieces have become available in recent years, one offered in Harald Möller's April 4, 2000 sale; one in Dr. Busso Peus Nachfolger's April 27, 2000 sale; and most recently, a specimen which brought 27,000 Euros in a September 2017 European auction.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



30278 Saxony. Johann Georg II Medallic 3 Taler 1678 AU Details (Mount Removed) NGC, Dresden mint, KM565 var. (weight), Dav-7633 var. (same), Merseburger-1187 var. (same), Dassdorf-916 var. (same), cf. MI-I-572/242 (weight not given), Schnee-941. 67.78gm. Struck to commemorate Johann Georg's election to the Order of the Garter of St. George on May 29, 1671. An intriguing medallic issue, clearly underlying an alliance between Charles II of Great Britain and Johann Georg II of Saxony, though we have been able to find little written on the nature of this bond. Johann Georg held a grand festival on St. George's Day (April 23, 1678) in Dresden to celebrate his admission to the Order, the most senior order of knighthood in the British honors system, with the stall plate commemorating the original event still located in St. George's Chapel in Windsor Castle.

The offering was struck to the Zinna weight standard (zinnaischer Fuss) around a decade after the Zinna Coin Treaty had concluded between Brandenburg and Saxony. While examples are generally available in taler weight, specimens in this triple-thick format are exceedingly rare, with Schnee recording perhaps only two known in 1982; none stem from some of the most prestigious Saxon collections, nor are located in the British Museum or the Royal Collection. What is more, whereas standard weight representatives were produced on relatively thin planchets, leading to a shallow and crude rendering of the designs, the added thickness here has provided a sturdier base for the dies to find full expression, permitting a greater appreciation of this truly fascinating design.

Ex. Irving Goodman Collection (Goldberg Auction 15, June 2002, Lot 560)

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



Exceedingly Rare Saxon 4 Taler

30279 Saxony. Johann Georg II 4 Taler 1663-CRAU Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, Dresden mint, KM506 (Rare), Dav-LS402, Dassdorf-Unl., Merseburger-1171, Schnee-916 (this coin cited). 116.45gm. Constantin Rothe as mintmaster. Incredibly rare, with only a small handful of examples known, and this very coin's previous auction listing in 1971 postulating an existence of a mere two specimens. This is, with all likelihood, the only opportunity that collectors will have to acquire a representative of this type. Featuring Johann George II standing in regal posture with sword in hand, wearing full armor and dress, the large format of this piece serves as a fitting canvas for the majestic design. Sometimes referred to as a confessional taler (Beichttaler), used by the Prince-Elector in the confessional, the example here demonstrates a soft graphite patina that lies with balanced uniformity across the surfaces—conferring a commendable sense of both age and long-maintained collector preservation—darkening slightly against the raised devices, and delicately brightened by the gleam of underlying argent luster. Taken together, these traits result in a bold and beautifully designed coin, essentially medallic in its scale and presentation, with the denomination shallowly and ever-so-carefully etched into the right obverse field, possibly by a collector many generations ago.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 80 (May 2001, Lot 435); Dr. Werner Koch Collection (Dr. Busso Peus Nachfolger October 1971, Lot 1615)

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



Exquisite Saxon Gold Medal

30280 Saxony. Johann Georg I/II gold Medal of 10 Ducats ND AU58 NGC, Merseburger-Unl., Wilmersdörffer-Unl., cf. Dassdorf-711 (R; there, gilt). 49mm. 34.59gm. By Johann Buchheim. Most intriguing and of the utmost rarity, this charming “peace” medal has inspired considerable debate amongst scholars of Saxon numismatics. Though often attributed to the instigation of Johann Frenzel, Magister at the University of Leipzig, the inscriptions on this piece do not allow a firm date in terms of production—“Peace, Salvation, and the Glory of God weave themselves together into a crancelin,” and, “That the branch of Electoral Saxony may grow to reach Heaven.” Tentzel, in his famous *Saxonia Numismatica*, (pg. 459, Table 42 III) described the type under Johann Georg I, a sentiment upheld by Dassdorf, who ascribed it to 1625, though Erbstein assigned it to the reign of Johann Georg II. Forrer states that Buchheim’s name first appears in records “as early as 1654,” suggesting that, at the earliest, the piece was produced toward the very end of Johann Georg I’s reign. If the connection to Frenzel is valid, we would also note that he received the distinction of Professor (an elevation from Magister) at the Fürstenkollegium in Leipzig in 1658. In either case, this is the first such presentation in gold that we have been able to locate, the type altogether missing from the collections of Merseburger and Wilmersdörffer, while Dassdorf contained only a gilt specimen. The piece moreover contains only the lightest evidence of rub, the edges free from damage or evidence of mount removals, while a light reddish tone pervades the surfaces.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Phenomenally Sharp Saxon 6 Ducat, Presumed Unique for this Date

30281 Saxony. Johann Georg III gold 6 Ducat 1690-IK UNC Details (Mount Removed) NGC, Dresden mint, KM588 (Rare; this coin), Fr-2744 (Unique), Merseburger-Unl., Dassdorf-Unl., Wilmersdorffer-Unl., Vogel Collection-Unl., Köhler Collection-Unl., Schnee-970 (this coin plated under Schnee-969), Baumgarten-Unl. 20.72gm. Johann Koch as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM670). A coin of absolute rarity, produced with impressive technical execution throughout. As is noted on the holder, a relatively inconspicuous mount removal at 12 o'clock is observed, but has not resulted in any further damage to the selection. Friedberg states that this date for the denomination is unique. Struck a year before the death of Johann Georg III, the engraving of the dies goes far to emphasize the Prince-Elector's health prior to his contraction of an epidemic illness in 1691. His heraldic, half-figure is fully clad in armor and set against open fields that positively beam with mint brilliance. Clearly recognized for its unparalleled desirability through its use as the plate piece in both the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and Schnee's *Sächsische Taler*, and entirely missing from all of the major collections of Saxon coins we have consulted, it is no doubt that this offering will inspire fierce competition as it crosses the auction block for the first time in over 20 years.

Ex. Künker Auction 42 (March 1998, Lot 3986)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Mint State Butterfly Taler

30282 Saxony. Friedrich August I “Butterfly” Taler (32 Groschen) ND (1708-1710) MS61 NGC, Dresden mint, KM-Unl. (prev. KM-M9), Dav-1616, Schnee-1007 (1709), Kop-11138 (R6), HCz-4663 (1733), Gum-2115. 32.6gm. A uniquely designed taler featuring a stylized butterfly motif to the obverse against a crowned monogram of Friedrich August I to the reverse. Very rare, and the first example of this elusive issue that we have encountered, this excellent Mint State specimen features a serene slate-gray tone set against surfaces revealing sharp glints of underlying mint luster, an undercurrent of pale orange-gold carrying across the fields. Sharply produced, with few meaningful distractions noted for the assigned grade, and a scarce opportunity to acquire such a fine example for a type that sales records suggest has appeared fewer than 5 times in recent decades.

Alternatively ascribed to both Poland and Saxony, the so-called Butterfly coinage of Friedrich August I of Saxony (August the Strong of Poland) has long confounded scholars and numismatists, largely owing to the lack of contemporary documents on its purpose, and its strange, un-naturalistic winged insect. Though various interpretations have postulated that this was meant to be an Apollo Butterfly, or that such coins were meant to either commemorate August's death or else serve as part of his love affair with Anna Constantia, Peter Arnold of the Dresden Münzkabinett instead suggests that they found issuance between the King's renunciation of the Polish throne by the Treaty of Altranstädt in September 1706, and his re-acquisition of the Polish crown in 1710. Künker has gone further to state that, as such, they may have served as a medium to carry a political message of hope and confidence that August would regain his reign over the Kingdom of Poland.

Ex. Ponterio & Associates Auction 124 (January 2003, Lot 2230)
Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



A Presumably Unique Gold Rarity with a Provenance Dating Back over a Century

30283 Saxony. Friedrich August I gold 8 Ducat 1725-IGS MS62+ NGC, Dresden mint, KM854 (Rare), Fr-2837 (Very Rare), Merseburger-Unl., Dassdorf-Unl., Vogel Collection-Unl., Schnee-1015 (this coin cited), Baumgarten-Unl. 27.73gm. Johann Georg Schomberg as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM776). A stunning coin which perfectly pairs absolute rarity with elite preservation. Stemming from an already challenging gold series, Baumgarten makes frequent remarks on the emissions of surrounding dates, such as “never [before] cited,” or “never [before] mentioned,” and “never [before] reported,” though he does not even cite this particular type. We can affirm that while this issue is cited from two dates by both Friedberg and the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, neither reference provides an illustration. Additionally, of the past major Saxon collections we have been able to consult—Merseburger, Dassdorf, Vogel, Köhler, Wilmersdörffer, and Brand—none of them contained a specimen, while the only example remarked upon by Schnee in 1982 was this very coin. By all indications, this offering may be unique, thus presenting another one-of-a-kind opportunity for even the most advanced connoisseurs of the Saxon series.

Ex. Dr. Friedrich Collection (Adolph Hess April 1914, Lot 1127)
Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



SCHAUMBURG-PINNEBERG



30284 Schaumburg-Pinneberg. Ernst III Taler ND (c. 1606) AU58 NGC, Altona mint, KM30, Dav-LS474, Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Popken Collection-Unl., Vogel Collection-1586, Weinmeister-150, Lange-831c. Henning Hanses as mintmaster. A piece of remarkable quality for this already challenging issue. Essentially absent from auction records of the last several decades, the only other specimen that we are aware of was sold as part of the Vogel Collection in 1927. Showing evidence of a minor die shift over both sides, which in no way hinders a full appreciation of the struck detail, this specimen unsurprisingly is the only of its type yet certified. Its true condition appears very much on the cusp of Mint State, bolstered by a salt-gray patina over mild cabinet iridescence. As is stated in the description for the corresponding 2 Taler of the same type in this sale, the paucity of auction appearances of large-size emissions from Schaumburg-Pinneberg points to an immense rarity for such coins. It follows, then, that this present offering will likely garner the attention that it deserves, as collectors may not be afforded a second chance to add a piece like this to their collection for years to come.

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



30285 Schaumburg-Pinneberg, Ernst III 2 Taler ND (c. 1606) MS62 NGC, Altona mint, KM38, Dav-LS472, von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Popken Collection-Unl., Vogel Collection-1582, Weinmeister-97 var. (pellet before start of obverse legend), Lange-851b var. (with weight of Lange-851a). 58.63gm. Henning Hanses as mintmaster. A remarkable relic of this already challenging German Countship. Although the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* generally makes few comments about the rarity of the coins from Schaumburg-Pinneburg, a quick review of sales records from the last two decades suggests as few as four emissions across all denominations having sold at auction—the largest of those being a 1/2 Taler sold as part of the Popken Collection in February 2014. Saved from the damages of circulation, this offering retains a laudable degree of detail, its strike definitive—although evidence of a flip-over double strike can be seen towards the end of the obverse (reverse as holdered) legend—and devoid of serious weakness as a sunset patina graces the scene of the mounted rider.

Perhaps of even greater interest to the student of history is the importance of such coins relating to the Thirty Years' War. Though conflict had not yet broken out at the time of its striking, both Protestants and Catholics found use in a numismatic medium to underline their religious loyalties. Ernst, head of a Lutheran state, employed the legend, "Hats Got vorsen so wirts wol geschen," which translates as, "God hath forseen, so it will come to pass."

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN-GOTTORP



30286 Schlwesig-Holstein-Gottorp. Johann Adolf 1-1/2 Taler ND (1607-1617) AU55 NGC, Schleswig mint, KM3, Dav-LS444, Wilmersdörffer-Unl., Boyksen Collection-Unl., Vogel Collection-1457 (same dies), Lange-264D. 44.38gm. By all indications an issue of immense rarity, absent from auction records over the last two decades and altogether missing from both the Wilmersdörffer and Künker's recent sale of the Hergen Boyksen collections. The only other examples that we are aware of are the Vogel specimen (Adolph Hess November 1927, Lot 1457) and the one plated in Davenport, first published in his *The Talers of the Dukes of Schleswig-Holstein* in 1990.

The issue was meant to support the Duke's legitimacy as the sovereign of Schleswig-Holstein, after struggling to receive recognition from both his brother, Johann Friedrich, and the Schleswig Estates. The reverse relates his titles as "Heir of Norway, Duke of Schleswig-Holstein, and Count of Oldenburg and Delmenhorst," and the obverse contains his personal motto *Virtus Post Funera* ("Virtue Outlives Death"), the same slogan that would be inscribed on the lid of his sarcophagus. Visually, the coin's toning palette could hardly be more ideal, cobalt and violet interplaying over the expanses and welling up to a silhouetting gold as it meets the reliefs of the designs, drastically downplaying the little circulation wear that is present. Sold with an old handwritten ticket.

The younger brother of Duke Philip, Johann Adolf succeeding to the dukedom of Schleswig upon Philip's death in 1590. Only 15 at the time, Johann had been envisioned by his father to take on an ecclesiastical path, becoming both Archbishop of Bremen and Bishop of Lübeck. As he was underage, Johann was met with resistance by both the Estates, which claimed they had a right to rule on the new duke, and his younger brother Johann Friedrich, who wanted a share of his father's inheritance. While Johann Adolf managed to buy off the Estates with generous gifts, his brother with the Archbishopric of Bremen in 1596, and the Prince-Bishopric of Lübeck in 1607 (the omission of those titles on this coin suggesting a date after that year), he would ultimately introduce the principle of primogeniture in 1608 and work to further strengthen the position of Duke.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000

SILESIA-LIEGNITZ-BRIEG



Astonishingly Rare 6 Ducat - Likely Its First Auction Appearance in 20 Years

30287 Silesia-Liegnitz-Brieg. Johann Christian & Georg Rudolph gold 6 Ducat 1610-(d) MS62+ NGC, Liegnitz or Brieg mint, KM140 (Rare), Fr-3150 (Rare), Reimmann-Unl., cf. F&S-1445 (for 5 Ducat, 6 Ducat unlisted), Saurma-Jeltsch-92 (same). 20.87gm. Christoph Tuchmann as mintmaster. An extremely rare denomination from this challenging and visually captivating series, undocumented by both Saurma-Jeltsch and Friedensburg and Seger. Finely detailed and with just a hint of minor die clash, to locate a specimen free of cleaning, polishing, and other post-mint imperfections is a notorious feat for Silesian coinage in general, let alone for such large gold issues, owing to its treasured status. Thus, to locate an example at the Mint State level seems unfathomable, though that is exactly what we have on offer here. Each element is fully expressed without the least evidence of rub; even the Dukes' faces, often the first area to experience friction due to the incuse facial features, still show a plethora of detail. Recent auction records reveal an utter paucity of gold multiples from Johann and Georg's joint reign, and the next largest we have been able to locate is a 4 Ducat. In his *Deutsches Münzpreis-Jahrbuch*, Wonsik records only one sale of this denomination-date (this coin), which brought 30,000 Euros in 2000.

Ex. Künker Auction 55 (March 2000, Lot 5351)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



30288 Silesia-Liegnitz-Brieg. Georg III von Brieg gold Medal of 10 Ducats 1656-IB AU Details (Plugged) NGC, Fr-Unl., Saurma-Jeltsch-351 (not illustrated), F&S-1830, Wiecek-6, Kalinowski-21 (this piece). 48mm. 34.27gm. By J. Buchheim. Struck upon Georg's nomination as Provincial Governor of Brieg. A remarkable and truly singular type, not only for its supreme rarity and scant auction appearances outside of Germany, but also for its unique imagery—no other coins of Liegnitz-Brieg feature the Duke mounted on horseback or a city view scene. Virtually unlocatable without some evidence of mounting, likely owing to its intentional use for presentation. This is one of only three examples to have been auctioned in recent years, and it is quite likely the nicest of those three, this particular coin serving as the plate specimen in Kalinowski's *Pieni q dz miasta Brzeg*. We would also note that the *Deutsches Münzpreis-Jahrbuch* records no additional sales records.

After the death of their uncle, Georg Rudolf, in 1653, Georg III and his brothers inherited the territories of Liegnitz (Legnica) and Wohlau (Wolow). The following year, in 1654, they resolved to formally divide their domains, with Georg retaining Brieg (Brzeg), Louis IV taking Liegnitz, and Christian the small towns of Wolow and Olawa. As two of the last autonomous duchies in Silesia, Brieg and Liegnitz represented the last relics of the peculiar political order that had dominated in the region since the death of Habsburg Emperor Albert II in 1439, during whose reign the post of Provincial Governor or Bailiff (Landeshauptmann, Starost) had been established. Within the territories of modern-day Poland, the 1650s represented an era of considerable uncertainty, as Swedish Occupation threatened much of the region, culminating in the Treaty of Königsberg in January 1656, which forced elector Friedrich Wilhelm of Brandenburg-Prussia to become a Swedish vassal. It is likely in this context that Georg had this medallion struck, perhaps to reassert his independence and rightful authority over the Duchy of Brieg in the face of mounting political unrest.

Estimate: \$7,000-\$9,000

STRALSUND



30289 Stralsund. Free City Siege 2 Taler MDCXXVIII (1628) AU53 NGC, KM57 (Rare), Dav-LS494, Bratring-8, Pogge-1469. 56.98gm. Struck from 1-1/2 Taler dies (cf. KM57). Hans Pul as mintmaster. Struck to commemorate the liberation of the city from the Imperial siege on July 24, 1628. An engaging historic type, this celebratory piece represents a key point in the struggles of the Thirty Years' War. Reprimanded for its failure to recognize Imperial suzerainty, the Imperial force laid siege to Stralsund in May 1628. The fighting that ensued was notoriously brutal, with Wallenstein's troops called in to reinforce the Imperial garrison and the city having the support of the Danish and Swedish auxiliaries. Through the mediation of Bogislaw XIV of Pomerania, the siege was lifted on July 24, 1628—a major defeat for Wallenstein, who up until that point had been flush with victory and intended to secure the Baltic coast, “for the emperor” (though likely it was more an effort of self-aggrandizement). Often an emission that is encountered in low XF or lesser condition when found at all, this coin contains a shimmering finish and contact marks that on the whole have been kept to a minimum.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 85 (October 2002, Lot 193)

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



TRIER





Elegant and Reportedly Unique Trier 6 Ducat

30290 Trier. Karl Kaspar gold 6 Ducat 1659-ICB AU58 NGC, Koblenz mint, KM-A114 (Unique), Fr-3464 (Unique), von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-Unl., Reimmann-Unl., Bohl-Unl., Schneemann, “Die Klostermünzen im Sprengel der trierischen Erzdiözese” (Jahresbericht der Gesellschaft für nützliche Forschungen zu Trier 1858), pg. 47, 207 (“size of a Double Taler,” likely this coin). 20.82gm. Johann Christoph Buchsmeyer as mintmaster. Struck from 2 Taler dies (cf. KM113; Rare). CAROL • CASPAR • D • G • ARCHI • EP : TRVIER • PRINC : ELECT • ADM : PRVM, bust of Archbishop-Elector Karl Kaspar von der Leyen facing three-quarters right, in inner circle / CONSTANter • ET • SINCERE • ANNO • 1659 • I • C • B, arms topped by elector’s hat in inner circle, Listed in both Friedberg and the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* as unique. Indeed, we have not been able to find another specimen in our research of past auction catalogs or references. Additionally, neither Weege nor the *Deutsches Münzpreis- Jahrbuch* report any sales records, suggesting that its inclusion in the aforementioned standard publications (where it is nonetheless unillustrated) may be due to a fairly recent surfacing within the market, prior to its acquisition in the Paramount Collection.

Interestingly, Klaus Lauter’s slim volume, *Über 2000 Jahre Münzen im Trierer Land*, published in 1967, includes a line drawing of a large, taler-sized coin dated 1666 (Plate XVI, 90). In its corresponding description, it alludes to a 10 Ducat striking with a weight of 34.5gm. It is curious to wonder if this may be a misreporting of the present coin, as our research shows no such coin is known, nor did Madai or von Schluthess-Rechberg record a taler of this date in their cabinets. Perhaps even more telling is the publication of a gold coin that matches the layout of this coin perfectly in the *Jahresbericht der Gesellschaft für nützliche Forschungen zu Trier* in 1858, where it is stated as, “of the size of a Double Taler” (though no weight is given), residing in the “collection of the society” (Sammlung der Gesellschaft), though no illustration is provided.

From a visual perspective, this piece features a compelling and unusual three-quarters angled portrait that bears a remarkable similarity in style to that of Martin Luther used upon the commemorative Taler coinage of Eisleben only two years later. This may indicate that the same engraver was employed for the two issues, or that at least a common thread of inspiration runs between the two. An enigmatic specimen and a fantastic survivor, bearing surfaces utterly exempt from mishandling, with only the slightest hints of friction to the high points.

Ex. The International Sale (Stack’s March 1988, Lot 1104); Schweizerischer Bankverein Auction 13 (January 1984, Lot 581)

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



WOLGAST



Visually Impressive 3 Taler Minted for Distribution During the King's Funeral Procession

30292 Wolgast - Swedish Occupation. Gustav Adolf II Medallie Largesse 3 Taler (3 Riksdaler) 1633 AU55 NGC, KM-M5, Dav-LS273 (under Erfurt), AAJ-10 (R), Hagander Collection-Unl. 85.78gm. Hinrich Martens as mintmaster. Struck upon the death of King Gustav Adolf II (Gustavus Adolphus) of Sweden at the Battle of Lützen in 1632. Simply a masterful presentation, and one of enormous historic importance for collectors of German and Swedish coinage—particularly enthusiasts of the Thirty Years' War. This denomination was altogether missing from Künker's 2012 sale of the Hagander Collection, as well as Spink's 1992 sale of the Milas Collection. One of the most beloved figures in the opposition to the Imperial forces of Ferdinand II, Gustav Adolph's body was embalmed in Weissenfels after his death and arrived in Wolgast, Pomerania in January 1633. In the procession of the royal corpse to the Baltic coast from the city for transportation back to Sweden, Jürgen Hornbostell was commissioned to the briefly reopened mint under Hinrich Martens to design new coins to be distributed (quite literally thrown) from behind the Queen Dowager Maria Eleonora's chariot. With costs for the procession quite high, attaining the necessary resources proved very difficult, requiring even the Queen's sink and a silver jug to be repurposed for the metal. Nevertheless, Lagerqvist records that 16 4 ducats, 20 4 talers, 60 2 talers, 240 1/2 talers, and 700 1/4 talers were so distributed. Through the constellation of their production and distribution factors, then, it is astonishing that such a specimen could have survived at all, let alone so close to Mint State.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



WORMS



Worms 2 Taler - The Davenport and Standard Catalog Plate Coin

30293 Worms. Bishopric 2 Taler ND (1625) AU50 NGC, KM81 (this coin), Dav-LS517 (same), Madai-5154 (weight not given), von Schluthess-Rechberg Collection-7276 (RRR), Joseph-338c. 56.45gm. A rare city-view type produced on the 100th anniversary of the Council of 13, and an offering notable for its use as the plate coin in both the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and John S. Davenport's *Large Size Silver Coins of the World*. Itself an implicit nod to the scarcity of the type, which would otherwise leave ample material to draw upon for plating, this honorary placement may also be indicative of the strong quality of the specimen at hand. Indeed, the coin on offer here appears much finer than the example held by the Staatliche Münzkabinett in Berlin. Expansive in size and scope, with a serene steel tone that blankets the surfaces, the image projected is one of inspiring character and appeal. Crimson iridescence is held within the outer registers, providing a pleasing visual frame for the prominent city-view, which is crowned at the top by the arms of the city, clasped by a pair of winged dragons. Though signs of circulation are evident, underlying mint luster expresses itself across the fields, glistening upon rotation and confirming only moderate use in exchange before being stowed away for generations. All said, a rare opportunity to acquire this fleeting issue, and perhaps the only one that bidders will encounter for a very long time.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000

End Of Session One

SESSION TWO
FRIDAY, MARCH 26 • 4:00 PM CT

WORLD COINS

GREAT BRITAIN – YUGOSLAVIA



GREAT BRITAIN





Fantastic Rarity Pedigreed to the 18th Century - Ex. Pittman, Farouk, Murdoch, Rostron, Lloyd, Duke of Devonshire, Trattle, Dummer

30294 Charles II gold Proof Pattern Crown 1662 PR63 Cameo NGC, KM-PnA33 (Rare), ESC-426 (R5; 4 Known; prev. ESC-69), L&S-1A, W&R-50 (R5), Murdoch-616 (this coin), Montagu-823. 52.74gm. Raised edge lettering. DECVS ET TVTAMEN ("An Ornament and a Safeguard") edge. By Jan (John) Roettiers. A fantastic rarity struck in the earliest years of Charles II's reign, and an offering that ranks leagues beyond many of even the "best" survivors of his reign, by virtue of its combined elusiveness, choice preservation, and opulent golden presentation.

It is difficult to overstate the importance and desirability of the offering at hand, a type that has seen inclusion in some of the most impressive collections of the last century and beyond, including the likes of Pittman, Farouk, and Murdoch, with a world-class pedigree traceable to 1765. Wilson and Rasmusen rate the type as "R5," corresponding to a total known issuance of only 6-10 examples. Perhaps unsurprisingly, this offering is the finest representative of its type certified by either NGC or PCGS, and it quickly becomes apparent that any serious collector could hardly locate a better example among the exceedingly few survivors extant, of which no more than a very few, at most, could be uncertified. In David Aker's 1999 catalog of the Pittman Collection, it was noted that this very example was one of Pittman's most treasured coins ("the highlight of his British collection"), and one which he regularly took with him to dozens of coin shows across the country for display. In hand, it is not difficult to see why this was so.

The strike, for all practical purposes, is flawless. Charles' portrait has been produced with such clarity and sharpness that it easily rivals the detail of coinage struck centuries after its production. His visage, laden with golden frost, displays hardly a hint of contact, while the fields below, flashy and opulently decorated in iridescent honeyed amber tone, yield a clean contrast against the crisp design motifs. Waves of brilliance ripple across the surfaces upon inspection, establishing a sense of preservation that would be the envy of other conditional survivors of the era, infinitely more so for a coin of such immense rarity. Indeed, Akers may easily have been correct when he suggested that this offering could be the single finest example of the 1662 gold Pattern Crown of either edge variety in existence, and the "royal" pedigree of this stupendous Pattern certainly indicates as much. In every respect, an absolute "wonder coin"!

As a point of interest, traces of die rust are noted in front of Charles' portrait and in several other locations, including raised dots underneath his ordinal (II) and the "D" in "DEI." A close comparison to the Montagu example plated in that catalog (Sotheby's, November 1895) reveals these same diagnostics, confirming, as one would expect, that both examples were struck from the same set of dies.

Ex. Heritage Auction #296 (July 2002, Lot 12106); John Jay Pittman Collection (David Akers August 1999, Lot 3834) [cover lot]; Farouk Collection (Sotheby's February 1954, Lot 810); Murdoch Collection (Sotheby's May 1903, Lot 616); Simpson Rostron Collection (Sotheby's May 1892, Lot 378); Lloyd Collection (possibly Sotheby's July 1857, Lot 224); Duke of Devonshire Collection (Christie's March 1844, Lot 504); Marmaduke Trattle Collection (Sotheby's May 1832, Lot 3068); Thomas Dummer Collection (John Gerard June 1785); likely from the estate of his father Thomas Lee Dummer (d. 1765)

Estimate: \$150,000-\$200,000



The Famed Petition Crown by Thomas Simon

30295 Charles II silver Pattern "Petition" Crown 1663 XF40 NGC, KM-PnB33, S-3354A, L&S-6, ESC-429 (R4; prev. ESC-72), Bergne, "Coin Pedigrees—No. 1" (The Numismatic Chronicle 16, November 1854), no. 8 (likely this coin). By Thomas Simon. Edge reads: *THOMAS SIMON • MOST • HVMBLY • PRAYS • YOUR • MAJESTY TO • COM-PARE • THIS • HIS • TRYALL • WITH • THE • DVTCH • AND • IF • MORE | TRVLY • DRAWN & • EMBOSS'D • MORE • GRACE: FVLLY • ORDER'D • AND • MORE • ACCVRATELY • ENGRAVEN • TO • RELIEVE • HIM •*, in two lines. Arguably the most famous and coveted crown of the whole British series, Thomas Simon's "Petition" Crown of 1663 has acquired an aura down through the years that renders it one of the most iconic English coins of all time. A budding artist during the years of the English Civil War, the young Thomas Simon had been appointed joint chief engraver at the Tower in 1645, so impressing Parliament with his Great Seal of the Commonwealth that he was made chief engraver of the Royal Mint. Making full use of Pierre Blondeau's newly established (and quite secretive) technology for milled coin production, what instantly set Simon's coins apart was their use of a lettered edge—the perfect solution and ultimate guard against the clipping and counterfeiting that had so plagued English hammered coinage and led to the early experiments with mechanized coin production in the first place. Perhaps best known during the Commonwealth for his gold Pattern Broads produced for Oliver Cromwell, Simon's long service to the anti-Royalist Commonwealth likely led to his distrust by Charles II after the Restoration, the most serious consequence of which was his replacement as chief engraver by the Dutchman Jan (John) Roettiers in 1662. Demoted to the role of strictly engraving the monarchy's seals, Simon was understandably furious, and in an act intended to restore himself to the King's good graces, produced the splendid Pattern crown seen here.

Reportedly drawn from Simon Cooper's portrait of Charles II of 1662, Simon's skill is put on full display for all to see. While the King may not have appreciated the broader bust executed by Simon, preferring the slenderer portrait by Roettiers (which can be seen on the previous lot in this sale), the design would nonetheless become one of the most instantly recognized rarities a British numismatist could hope to acquire. Capturing an expressiveness that balances between realism and heraldry, the Petition Crown renders Charles II's visage in thoroughly medallion proportions. His hair is billowing and regal, his gaze determined and unwavering, and even the strength of the muscles in his neck is realized in full. As is exemplified by the present specimen, every detail down to the denticles along the edge and Simon's own cursive signature are painstakingly cut, indicating that while Simon was indeed quite confident in his own skill, he took the production of his work very seriously. Indeed, the charming gunmetal cabinet patina of the present piece only serves to further underlie its supreme artistic quality. Whether or not M. Day was correct in his March 1961 article in *Seaby's Coin and Medal Bulletin* that Simon in fact merely "embellished" upon Roettiers' Pattern to produce his own—rather than a formal competition being staged between the two—the Crown can only be regarded as Simon's magnum opus. Even as early as 1697, John Evelyn made an entry in his diary that stated: "I cannot omit that ingenious trial of skill which a commendable emulation has produced in a medal performed with extraordinary accuracy."

Working from John Bergne's foundational census published in the *Numismatic Chronicle* in 1854, we have been able to adduce a total of approximately 19 examples of the Petition Crown still in existence, several of which could admittedly be duplicates. Of those 19, 7 are known to reside in public institutional collections, and of the remaining 12, only three have been certified to date. Admittedly, while the Paramount specimen does show even wear over the devices, we feel that, considering its special production status and that it was never intended for circulation, a specimen designation may be more fitting. Though representatives of the type have graced some of the most renowned British collections of all time, those collections that did not contain a specimen are just as telling, and drive home the absolute scarcity of this piece up for offer: not Lockett, Garrett, Pittman, Whetmore, Dr. Erik Miller, nor the Duchess of Beaufort collections contained an example. For the prospective bidder's information, we have included below an up-to-date census of all examples known to us, together with their last recorded whereabouts. To conserve space, we have abbreviated the provenances that accompany each coin, with the exception of the Paramount example. A more detailed list will be made available on the lot page online prior to the sale:

- 1) **The National Museums of Scotland specimen** (A.1911.506.350). Bequeathed to the National Museums of Scotland in 1911. Originally from the Murdoch Collection. (Bergne no. 1)
- 2) **The Stephen Fenton specimen**. Purchased by Stephen Fenton from the Glenister Collection (Spink Auction 7023, September 2007, Lot 503). (Bergne no. 2) – Certified SP63 by NGC
- 3) **The Royal Mint Museum specimen** (RMM 647). Bequeathed to The Royal Mint by Miss Sarah Banks, a "virtuoso collector of antiquarian items which documented the social history of her age." (Bergne no. 3)
- 4) **The British Museum specimen, no. 2**. Loaned by the Bank of England to the British Museum in 1865, until 1877, when it, together with the rest of the Bank's collection, was permanently incorporated into the British Museum. (Bergne no. 4)
- 5) **The ex. John Alfred Wigan and Edward Wright Wigan specimen** (whose collection was purchased en bloc by Rollin & Feuardent in 1872). (Bergne no. 5)
- 6) **The ex. Dr. David Rees-Jones specimen**. Spink Auction 117 (November 1996, Lot 117) [Reportedly purchased by a "G" according to our copy of the Rees-Jones catalog]. (Bergne no. 6)
- 7) **The Tyrant Collection specimen**. The New York Sale XLIII (January 2018, Lot 1103); Rowley Butters Collection (St. James's Auction 9, June 2008, Lot 333). (Bergne no. 7) – Certified SP53 by PCGS
- 8) **The Paramount specimen (this coin)**. LaRiviere Collection (Spink Auction 3017, November 2003, Lot 22); Spink Numismatic Circular (November 1997, Item 5615); George R. Blake Collection (Seaby Bulletin May-June 1956, Item BL195); C. Anthony Collection (Seaby Bulletin February 1949, Item 5819A); Capt. H. E. G. Paget Collection (Glendining September 1946, Lot 229); Thomas Bryan Clarke-Thornhill Collection (Glendining May 1937, Lot 604); Glendining (November 1925, Lot 123); John Story Jenks Collection (Henry Chapman December 1921, Lot 1326); Work Collection (supposedly sold by private transaction to John Story Jenks by Samuel Hudson & Henry Chapman in 1898); Possibly John Henderson Collection (Sotheby's June 1818, Lot 396) [stated to have been purchased by a 'Cuerton'? (possibly Harry Osborn Cureton)]; Sotheby's (June 1805 [withdrawn]); Sold by Marmaduke Trattle to Barré Charles Roberts by private treaty (23 July 1800); Sold by Mr. Hutchins' widow to Marmaduke Trattle by private treaty; Sold by G. Hollington Barker to Mr. Hutchins, auctioneer by private treaty; G. Hollington Barker Collection; Mr. Thomas Dummer Collection (John Gerard June 1785); Estate of Thomas Lee Dummer to his son, Mr. Thomas Dummer (c. 1765); Thomas Lee Dummer Collection (d. 1765). (Likely Bergne no. 8)
- 9) **The British Museum specimen, no. 1**. From the Sloane Collection, which was purchased by Parliament in 1753 as the foundation of the British Museum. (Bergne no. 9)
- 10) **The ex. J. E. Moon specimen**. Sotheby's (May 1901, Lot 319) [Purchased by Spink]. (Bergne no. 10)
- 11) **The Sir George Chetwind specimen**. Purchased by Sir George Chetwind from the Duke of Devonshire Collection (Christie's March 1844, Lot 285). (Bergne no. 11)
- 12) **The Hunterian Museum, University of Glasgow specimen**. Bequeathed to Glasgow University by Dr. Hunter, who had purchased it from the Dr. Sadlier Collection. (Bergne no. 12)
- 13) **The Bodleian Library, University of Oxford specimen O**. Bequeathed by Browne Willis to the Bodleian Library. (Bergne no. 13)
- 14) **The ex. "Mrs. Biscoe" specimen**. Sold to her by a dealer, who had purchased it from a silversmith in Salisbury c. 1847. (Bergne no. 14)
- 15) **The Ashmolean Museum specimen**. Reportedly deposited from the Library of Christ Church c. 1940, according to C.H.V. Sutherland's article "The Coin Collection of Christ Church, Oxford: A Chapter in the History of Numismatics," *Oxoniensa* 5. (Bergne no. 15)
- 16) **The "Nobleman" (Marquees of Aylesbury) Collection specimen**. Sotheby's (June 1903, Lot 102); Stored away from 1789 to 1903. (Not in Bergne)
- 17) **The Geoffrey Cope specimen**. Purchased from the Slaney Collection, Part I (Spink Auction 3024, May 2003, Lot 136). (Possibly Bergne no. 11?) = ESC-429 Plate Coin = S-3354A Plate Coin.
- 18) **The Fitzwilliam Museum specimen** (CM.1.430-1930). Donated to the Fitzwilliam Museum by T.J.G. Duncanson of Emmanuel College in 1930. Originally from the Wakley Collection. (Possibly Bergne no. 14?)
- 19) **The ex. Augustus Thelluson specimen**. Sotheby's (October 1931, Lot 276). (Possibly Bergne no. 14?)

Estimate: \$80,000-\$100,000



30296 Charles II gold "Elephant" 2 Guineas 1664 AU Details (Obverse Cleaned) NGC, KM425.2, Fr-285, S-3334, Schneider-430. Elephant below bust. A thoroughly pleasing example of this popular hall-marked issue, and the first year of production for the 2 Guinea piece. The elephant below Charles's portrait denotes the origin of specie, imported from the Guinea region of West Africa by the Royal African Company. Faint evidence of a prior cleaning is visible via light hairlines and an overall muted appearance to the fields and devices, but the reverse is fully lustrous and even a touch Prooflike. A more attainable example of this difficult type, still possessing significant eye appeal.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30297 Charles II gold "Elephant" 5 Guineas 1668 AU58 NGC, KM430.2, Fr-281, S-3329, Schneider-Unl. VICESIMO edge. First Bust. Compelling for its type and bordering on Mint State preservation, this fascinating 5 Guinea issue features the elephant hallmark below the King's laureate bust, indicating that the gold specie used to produce this coin was sourced from Royal African Company. A head-on examination of the obverse leaves what at first appears to be a near-matte finish, a notion quickly dispelled by a turn of the wrist that unleashes shimmering underlying luster carrying soft hints of iridescence. Charles' sensitively rendered portrait cannot be said to be anything but full in both its quality and the impact of its expression, with every feature in both his visage and the surrounding elements defined fully and raised in admirable relief above the lower-lying fields. Slight wisps of handling easily blend into the lightly silver-patinated surfaces, yielding an impression of quality that leaves this appealing offering as a distinctive contender for the quality-concerned collector.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Brilliant 1673 5 Guineas of Charles II

30298 Charles II gold 5 Guineas 1673 AU55 NGC, KM430.1, Fr-281, S-3328, Schneider-Unl. Displaying a lustrous finish over vibrant sun-gold surfaces, with only the lightest degree of scattered handling traceable throughout, it is easily evident in hand that this impressive 5 Guineas borders Mint State preservation. Though the dies employed do not appear to have been in their earlier stages at the time of striking, judging by a perceptible slight deterioration of the struck details, it is nonetheless evident that this specimen saw hardly any use in circulation. Charles' bust is skillfully rendered by the engraver, significant attention given to his facial features and locks of hair that fall delicately across his neck and shoulders. Exceedingly little actual wear is visible across the designs, with the King's image displaying only an absolute minimum of rub to the high-points, and the reverse face essentially unimpacted by exchange, revealing only the same degree of handling often encountered in examples certified Mint State. We encourage potential bidders to compare this offering to that seen in our January NYINC Platinum Night Auction 3089, Lot 31174, which, despite also being of commendable quality and equal certification, displayed a more tempered color and noticeably more rub to the central features. All stated, a premium offering deserving of the closest bidder consideration.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



Mint State Charles II 5 Guineas

30299 Charles II gold 5 Guineas 1679 MS61 NGC, KM444.1, Fr-281, S-3331, Schneider-Unl. 41.8gm. TRICESIMO PRIMO edge. A type rarely seen in higher tiers of preservation, much less so in Mint State condition, and currently the only example of the date certified at this level by either NGC or PCGS. Generally well-centered, with what may at first appear to be a strike slightly high-of-center due to a subtle unevenness to the bottom of the flan. In this luxurious golden format, the bust of Charles II, skillfully crafted and nearly fully struck-up, is as splendid as one could expect from any regular circulation coinage of his reign. This observation is only made truer by the uncirculated state of the piece, elevating the designs to their highest caliber. Illumination reveals scintillating luster that carries admirably across the surfaces, particularly to the reverse, which contains ample wateriness and, similar to the obverse, gentle touches of striking amber tone that blend gradually and effortlessly into the golden color of the background. Absent any larger marks and with such lofty aesthetic appeal, this offering deserves nothing but the closest consideration.
Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



30300 William & Mary gold 5 Guineas 1691 UNC Details (Obverse Spot Removed) NGC, KM479.1, Fr-299, S-3422, Schneider-Unl. TERTIO edge. Wholly charming and brilliant throughout, with golden surfaces warmed by impressive mint luster. This appealing 5 Guinea of William & Mary represents a highly collectible example of this sought-after issue, particularly so considering its clear Mint State level of preservation. A firm strike yields a nearly full expression of the devices, only slight weakness noted on an isolated lock of William's hair, as well as the center of the reverse shield. An appealing amber tone amplifies the aesthetic caliber of this piece, with evidence of a small spot removal by the final letter in "GRATIA" and a single fine mark extending from the back of William's head to the V in "GVLIELMVS" noted for accuracy. A type that is usually encountered in circulated conditions, this scintillating representative is likely to draw significant attention from quality-minded collectors of English gold.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



Wonderfully Toned William and Mary 5 Guineas

30301 William & Mary gold 5 Guineas 1691 AU58 NGC, KM479.1, Fr-299, S-3422, Schneider-Unl. TERTIO edge. An exceptional example of this scarce 5 Guineas issue, boasting a hearty magenta patina over the obverse fields that transitions to violet and a hint of blue-green near the peripheries. A hint of friction over the obverse devices limits the coin from a Mint State designation, but the reverse appears essentially uncirculated, with bright, full luster pervading the fields. Presently surpassed by only one example in the NGC census, in MS63, and a highly respectable representation of this pleasing jugate bust type.

Ex. Spink Auction 5028 (May 2005, Lot 124)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Of Legendary Quality - None Certified Finer

30302 William & Mary gold 5 Guineas 1693 MS64 Prooflike NGC, KM479.1, Fr-299, S-3422, Schneider-462. QVINTO edge. Simply stated, of legendary quality. Any collector seeking the absolute “best of the best” for the type must necessarily take pause to consider this sublime example, which, beyond a tied position for the technically finest certified example of the issue, further carries a Prooflike designation in recognition of its awe-inspiring mirrored surfaces. Among a team of numismatists with combined decades of experience in the industry, there is universal agreement that this specimen is not only the finest that we have ever offered, but is also by far the finest that anybody here has seen. It is worth, then, elaborating on what exactly renders this coin a giant among its fellow survivors.

The strike is full, in fact, needle-sharp, every feature rising in clean contrast against its surrounding elements. While William & Mary’s 5 Guineas typically display an overall shallower engraving style, this fact is rendered irrelevant in this piece by virtue of universally clear outlining to the central motifs, both the jugate busts of the dual Monarchs and the reverse shield displaying not a hint of weakness nor blending in with the adjacent fields. The legends, similarly, are struck with an exactitude and clarity that easily renders them the sharpest that we have seen, providing a clear perception of bold striking quality that would stand out to even a seasoned expert.

It is the pondlike mirror resplendence of the fields that provides the crowning touch to this majestic offering. Their sheer reflectivity dominates the aesthetics of the piece, providing an aura of careful preservation that reaches for the absolute peak of attainable quality for both this specific type, and indeed, any representative of the era at all. The slightest turn of the wrist unleashes a tidal wave of brilliance across the fields, bathing the raised motifs in golden light to establish a new conditional benchmark that has yet to be surpassed. We believe it wholly justified to say that no superlatives can do this magnificent offering full justice, and can easily imagine a not-distant future in which the words “the Paramount William & Mary 1693 5 Guineas” will immediately evoke an image by which all other survivors must be measured against.

Estimate: \$150,000-\$200,000



30303 William & Mary gold “Elephant & Castle” 5 Guineas 1694 AU Details (Rim Repair) NGC, KM479.2, Fr-299, S-3423, Schneider-Unl. SEXTO edge. An attractive lesser-circulated selection of this highly popular type issued under the joint rulers, William and Mary, following the Glorious Revolution of 1688. The offering displays strong traces of original luster amidst appealing detail that leaves ample room for admiration, the noted rim repair appearing relatively minor and hardly distracting in hand. An excellent offering for the type collector seeking an aesthetically sound example without entering the ultra high-budget territory required in the acquisition of a technically finer selection of this coveted issue.

Ex. Bonhams (March 1999, Lot 180)
Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000



30304 William III gold “Fine Work” 2 Guineas 1701 AU58 NGC, KM507, Fr-321, S-3457, Schneider-482. 16.8gm. A bold portrait of William III takes center stage on this captivating, near-Mint State example of the type, famed for its high-quality engraving style and appropriately dubbed “Fine Work.” This intricate design is owed to the work of Sir Isaac Newton, whose efforts as mintmaster served to reform prior production deficiencies to result in the beautiful piece of art seen here today. A full strike lends a complete and deep outline to William’s features, set within stirring golden brilliance tempered only in its intensity by a fine cabinet tone of amber and honey-gold. It speaks to the strength of this collection that it contains an even finer specimen of the type than the slightly lower-graded example that we offered as part of the Penn Collection in January of this year, and we do not doubt that this premier selection will be met with at least equal bidder enthusiasm.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



Among the Finest Certified

30305 William III gold “Elephant & Castle” 5 Guineas 1699 MS61 NGC, KM505.2, Fr-311, S-3455, Schneider-479. 41.7gm. UNDECIMO edge. A covetable 5 Guineas, struck near the beginning of Britain’s rise as the foremost colonial power in the world. Produced upon a bright and luminous harvest-gold planchet that retains generous mint brilliance even centuries on, this Mint State selection earns its elite designation for its high-end quality, combining an as-struck level of detail with the aforementioned luster, which must be seen in hand to be fully appreciated. As has been pointed out elsewhere, the 5 Guineas of 1699 were generally lightly struck, resulting in a particular flatness to the higher points of the design that oftentimes is mistaken for wear. This softness is evident in the higher features of this specimen as well, including William’s hair curls and laureate wreath, but a fullness of luster and close examination reveal only what the grade designation already confirms: this offering escaped circulation for the entirety of its 300+ year-long history. Though lightness of strike may be a defining obverse feature, the reverse displays only the clearest and most well-expressed detail, with the legends, scepters, and crowns all produced to exacting calculation, crisp and without a hint of weakness. Only gentle friction defines the grade, along with a fine and slightly curved reverse scratch, noted for accuracy. A true collector’s coin, tied for the second-finest certified to date across both PCGS and NGC, with only a single example, an MS62 that hammered in a European Auction for over \$200,000 in September of 2018, certified finer.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Appealing “Fine Work” 5 Guineas

30306 William III gold “Fine Work” 5 Guineas 1701 MS61+ NGC, KM508, Fr-310, S-3456, Schneider-481. Plain scepters variety. DECIMO TERTIO edge. An exceedingly sharp example of this attractively styled 5 Guineas, featuring “fine work” engraving that is readily observed throughout the King’s coiffed portrait, as well as on the reverse designs. Upon examination, the viewer’s eyes are met with detail that rises in balanced uniformity to near-medallic proportions, these bathed in a fetching golden brilliance that careens across the surfaces under even subtle rotation. Pleasingly devoid of any noticeable marks in the major focal areas, and with a general appeal that is strong for the grade, established nearly entirely by gentle handling friction. This highly presentable 5 Guineas should be seen as a strong candidate for even the more conditionally sensitive collector.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Inspiring “Fine Work” 5 Guineas

30307 William III gold “Fine Work” 5 Guineas 1701 AU58 NGC, KM508, Fr-310, S-3456, Schneider-480. Plain Scepters variety. DECIMO TERTIO edge. By nearly all appearances virtually Mint State, this commendable selection owes its lightly circulated grade designation to only an absolutely trivial amount of rub to the very highest points and an even scattering of friction that seems to have done little to diminish the specimen’s original lustrous state. In fact, rotation under light unleashes a full mint glow that appears as boundless as that seen in higher-grade selections, lending a majestic appeal to this formidable early 18th-century rarity. William’s thick locks of hair, sharp in their relief, fall with grace upon his shoulders, with the overall detail very nearly preserved to its as-struck appearance, this extending to even the most minute ornamentation in the reverse crowns and scepters. Given these observations, and only scant handling to boot, this offering must be recognized for what it so clearly is: an exceptional type candidate, borderline uncirculated in both appeal and appearance.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Borderline Uncirculated James II 5 Guineas

30308 James II gold 5 Guineas 1687 AU58 NGC, KM460.1, Fr-292, S-3397A, Schneider-452-453. TERTIO edge. Possessing a nearly three-dimensional lustrous depth that envelopes a skillfully crafted portrait of James II, this carefully preserved 5 Guineas maintains a near Mint State appeal with only soft and evenly dispersed friction in the fields, indicating what must have been an exceedingly brief period in circulation. Full and beaming luster frames the peripheries while leaping through the boundaries upon rotation and sweeping into the open areas by a slight turn of the wrist. It is difficult to point to actual wear across the devices themselves, with perhaps only the faintest rub traceable to the highest elements, the King's carefully engraved curls and facial features otherwise projecting full visual potency. Decorated in a veil of fetching amber tone and revealing just the faintest of minute haymarks that serve to underscore the piece's originality, while simultaneously serving as a future pedigree marker. The offering at hand should in all respects be counted as a worthy contender for a high-end type collection of British gold coinage.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



A Covetable Mint State Representative of an Outstanding Historical Rarity

30309 Anne gold "Vigo" 5 Guineas 1703 UNC Details (Damaged)
NGC, KM520.1, Fr-318, S-3561, Schneider-523. 41.90gm. SECVNDO edge. One of the most famous rarities of the British series and the single largest denomination struck from specie captured from the Spanish at Vigo Bay in 1702 as part of the War of Spanish Succession. This treasure amounted to approximately 4,500 pounds of silver but only 7 pounds 8 ounces of gold; as such, silver coins bearing the Vigo hallmark are reasonably attainable, but gold coins are seldom seen. Of these, the 5 Guineas are the rarest, rendering their acquisition a virtually impossible task for the vast majority of collectors. In fact, as few as 15-20 examples are known today.

The Battle of Vigo Bay was precipitated by chance and opportunistic action, rather than any extended planning or foresight. The attempted seizure of Cádiz by Anglo-Dutch forces had failed miserably in the previous month of September, and as a result, Admiral Sir George Rooke had turned his fleet back toward home waters. However, upon receiving the news that an armada of Spanish ships had recently anchored at Vigo Bay in northwestern Spain, Rooke decided to engage. The Spanish took decisive measures to contain and ward off the assault, including the placement of a heavy boom to block the entrance to the bay. Vice Admiral Thomas Hopsonn led the attack in the Torbay, and eventually managed to break through the boom, with several ships following. Despite desperate measures by the Spanish, including the use of a fire ship that, fortunately for the allies, blew up prematurely, the Anglo-Dutch force succeeded, overcoming the enemy ships with relative ease on October 23, 1702. Though it was discovered that most of the cargo had already been unloaded, with the haul subsequently being significantly less than had been expected, the military success was complete, and all ships of the French escort fleet and the Spanish galleons were either destroyed or captured. Further, the event became a huge piece of propaganda for the English, who proceeded to mint coins from the capture bullion, prominently marked with the name "Vigo" in honor of their victory.

Though all survivors of this exceedingly scarce issue receive commensurate collector and bidder attention, it is the uncirculated state of this specimen that catapults it into an elite tier of desirability. Despite a peppering of light marks, alluded to on the holder insert, the luster remains not only full but spectacular. Sleek mint brilliance careens with unimpeded grace across the surfaces, illuminating a warm sunset tone that expresses itself with balanced uniformity, growing in intensity toward the outer registers and gripping the legends in fiery light. The strike appears full, with only a single area of lightness on Anne's left shoulder and an isolated scratch noted to the right field, easily drowned out by an abundance of flaring luster. If ever it were true, this offering, a sparkling jewel of a coin, can only be fully appreciated in hand, if not for the vastness of its historical importance, then certainly for the visual masterpiece that it represents.

Estimate: \$100,000-\$200,000



Captivating Post-Union 5 Guineas

30310 Anne gold 5 Guineas 1706 MS61 NGC, KM521, Fr-317, S-3566, Schneider-524. Post-Union type. QVINTO edge. Mint State condition is anything but common for the treasured 5 Guinea series of Anne's reign, and yet, the viewer is met with just such uncontestable quality when beholding this immensely attractive and imposing example of the type. It perhaps speaks to the difficulty of encountering uncirculated representatives of this single-year issue that we, until now, have not offered a single such example of the type across the tens of thousands of British coins that we have seen to date. There is no question, though, even ignoring NGC's assigned grade, that this specimen remains in its original untraded state: rotation under light ignites the surfaces in sparkling mint gloss, unveiling a dazzling brilliance that flows unimpeded across the fields to embellish design motifs that remain as sharp as the day the specimen was produced over 300 years ago. Gold is rarely seen with the level of enhancing tone that meets the viewer of this specimen, a burst of tangerine evolving to a striking red amber hue that gently grips the peripheral elements. Beautiful in hand and very nearly without equal, this captivating offering comes with our highest recommendation.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Lustrous and Admirably Toned George I 5 Guineas

30311 George I gold 5 Guineas 1726 AU53 NGC, KM547, Fr-325, S-3626, Schneider-542. TERTIO edge. Conditionally impressive for the type, and certainly at the upper end of surviving examples in the 5 Guinea series of George I's reign, most having seen heavier circulation and often experiencing some combination of other issues and heavy-handed treatment. No such flaws exist over the surfaces of this selection, which retains a mint-fresh glistening luster throughout its fields, tinged in lilac, soft champagne, and fiery red, all intermingled to striking visual impact. Faint rub exists at the more exposed points, such as George's cheek, yet even there, blends in admirably with the surrounding features, while the King's hair curls and laureate wreath, the legends, and the reverse shield and scepter motifs remain sharp to a degree that is easily consistent with a higher certified grade. We expect spirited bidding for this strong offering of an undeniably popular issue, one that thus far has seen no examples certified in Mint State condition across either NGC or PCGS.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



30312 George II gold “East India Company” 5 Guineas 1729 UNC Details (Cleaned) NGC, KM571.2, S-3664, Fr-333, Schneider-556. TERTIO edge. EIC below bust. The inaugural year from this short-lived series, featuring the younger, laureate portrait of George II. Despite the presence of light hairlines from an old cleaning, this is an exceptionally attractive specimen, plainly Mint State, and with underlying but easily apparent Prooflike reflectivity in the fields. A highly important “East India Company” issue.

First chartered as the “Company of Merchants of London Trading into the East Indies” under Queen Elizabeth I in 1600, the East India Company eventually rose to account for half of the entire world’s trade, bolstering the financial and territorial roots of the British Empire, and was an integral part of the events leading up to the American Revolution: their exemption from the tea import duties imposed on their colonial counterparts triggered the Boston Tea Party of 1773. In fact, the prominence of the EIC during this turbulent time has led some to theorize that the Stars and Stripes were based on the East India Flag, as the two bear remarkable similarities.

Ex. Spink Auction 5028 (May 2005, Lot 161)

Estimate: \$18,000-\$24,000



Stunning Proof 5 Guineas of George II

30313 George II gold Proof 5 Guineas 1731 PR64+ Cameo NGC, KM571.1, S-3663A, W&R-68 (R4), Schneider-558. QVARTO edge. By John Croker, reverse by John Tanner. A simply stunning Proof 5 Guineas of George II, for which few superlatives seem adequate in light of the piece's exemplary preservation. Produced during a period of British ascendancy on the world stage, at the time of George's kingship and Sir Robert Walpole's tenure as Prime Minister (the longest in British history, lasting from April of 1721 to February of 1742), this miraculous survivor stands in a league of its own, well beyond the few other Proofs of the same issue that have come to market in the last several years.

The offering is an unmistakable Proof, its raised rims and mirrored finish confirming this special designation. Closer study presents a flash at every turn, revealing a lack of noteworthy marks or contact, with only fine die polish lines and resounding reflectivity in the fields. The end result is a superb and luminescent canvas to display the struck features—an exemplary and lightly frosted portrait of the middle-aged Monarch atop the obverse, and a reverse that presents equally sharp legends and an utterly crisp and decisively rendered Hanoverian shield—all of which are without even a trivial instance of striking weakness. In summary, an elite jewel of a coin, which by all appearances is destined for a peak collection of high-grade British gold.

Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



30314 George II gold 5 Guineas 1741/38 UNC Details (Reverse Graffiti) NGC, KM571.1, Fr-332, S-3663A, Schneider-563. Unquestionably uncirculated and evidently struck from recently polished dies, this immense gold specimen lends the immediate appearance of a pleasing choice example, bearing full frosty luster, an exquisite level of detail, and only scattered marks over the surfaces. Close inspection of the reverse reveals four shallow and crudely engraved characters in the field above the crown, though they do little to diminish the overall eye appeal. While unlisted upon the slab, this is an example of the 1741/38 overdate variety.

Ex Spink Auction 5028 (May 2005, Lot 167)

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



Mint State “LIMA” 5 Guineas

30315 George II gold 5 Guineas 1746-LIMA MS60 NGC, KM586.1, Fr-335, S-3665, Schneider-564. DECIMO NONO edge. An immensely popular hallmarked issue struck from gold seized by Admiral Anson (a prominent Royal Navy officer) in his raids on Spanish treasure ships in Lima, Peru. Very desirable in the present Mint State preservation, and exceptionally attractive for the issue; indeed, the immediate impression is that of a piece in perhaps MS61 or MS62, the surfaces exceptionally lustrous and permeated with an appealing watery reflectivity. Only close inspection reveals the presence of the faint hairlines that would appear to account for the assigned grade.

The hefty weight of gold used to produce this 5 Guineas of George II was part of the £500,000 in specie captured by Admiral Anson (a prominent Royal Navy officer) in his raids on Spanish treasure ships bearing gold and silver mined in Lima, Peru. On their safe return to Portsmouth, Anson was met by a cheering crowd who formed a parade all the way back to London so as to safely deposit the tons of captured Spanish ore at the Royal Mint. To celebrate their victory (and humiliate their enemies), coins made from this treasure were marked 'Lima' beneath the bust of George II, and thus a historic coinage was born.

Ex. Spink Auction 5028 (May 2005, Lot 169)

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



Charming George II 5 Guineas

30317 George II gold 5 Guineas 1753 AU55 NGC, KM586.2, Fr-334, S-3666, Schneider-566. SEXTO edge. Bold and elegantly rendered, this impressive large-sized gold issue of George II features luminous golden fields that shine with glossy mint brilliance. Typical striking weakness is apparent upon certain high points of the portrait, but there is very little true wear, as evidenced by the loss of essentially no detail to the reverse design. An attractive and engaging specimen.

Ex. Spink Auction 5028 (May 2005, Lot 171)
Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Exceptional Gem “Three Graces” Crown

30318 George III silver Proof Pattern “Three Graces” Crown 1817 PR65 NGC, KM-PnA77, L&S-152, ESC-2020 (R2). Plain edge. By William Wyon. Representing one of the greatest coins of the entire British series, and a celebrated work of art that continues to draw enthusiasm from collectors the world over, the 1817 silver “Three Graces” Pattern Crown remains an instantly recognizable numismatic masterpiece, encompassing the same quality of engraving and attention to detail that normally accompanies only the highest tier of medallion coinage. Many consider the type to be the very peak of William Wyon’s artistic achievement. Depicting England, Ireland, and Scotland anthropomorphized as the Three Graces of Greek mythology wrapped in a circular embrace, the three Goddesses together represent the United Kingdom. The design’s neoclassical style and grace are arguably unique to this coin, which remains beloved by collectors for that same reason. It is no exaggeration to say that the present offering ranks as one of the very finest that we have ever seen, the high-gloss finish of its fields stand in striking contrast against the raised features, these nearly matte in appearance and exhibiting an attention to detail that is, plainly speaking, splendid. Noteworthy traces of contact are non-existent throughout, while a superb iridescence graces the sleek fields, metallic oranges and blues creating a striking visual impact that only intensifies to the reverse, itself decorated with such balance and colorful character that it seems nearly unsurpassable in hand. Only a few words adequately sum up what perhaps so many cannot; simply put, a marvel of a coin.

Estimate: \$80,000-\$100,000







Excessively Rare and Attractive George III Proof Pattern 5 Guineas

30319 George III gold Proof Pattern 5 Guineas 1773 PR64 Cameo NGC, KM-Pn52, Fr-350, S-3723, L&S-2, W&R-77 (R4), Schneider-Unl. Plain edge. By John Tanner. Few areas of world coinage inspire the same degree of admiration as do the emissions of Great Britain, and, among those, few can lay claim to the desirability surrounding the Patterns produced during the reign of George III. With George's long reign—nearly 60 years, the longest prior to Queen Victoria—seeing a plethora of Pattern types from the 2 and 5 Guineas of Tanner and Yeo, to the Incorrupta and Three Graces Crowns, it seems difficult to place one issue above another. That said, there is something quite singular about Tanner's gold trials, which stand in a class of their own.

Produced when George was still a relatively young man of 30 to 35 years old, these pieces attempted to project the image of a strong King of England in a new sort of medium that had seen little use in 18th-century Great Britain. While single, half, and quarter Guineas had been issued almost immediately after George took the throne, as a consequence of speculation and the overvaluation of British gold at the time, gold was one of the few mediums that remained for domestic transactions, while undervalued silver and copper were sold abroad. This shift in the composition of the local money supply also meant that previously high-status gold coins now came into the hands of even the less well-to-do, and as a consequence became required for smaller transactions, a fact that led to the unprecedented creation of a 1/3 Guinea in 1797. Although several attempts were made in 1768, 1773, and 1777 to coin 2 Guinea pieces and in 1770, 1773, and 1777 to coin 5 Guinea pieces, the ultimately (and seemingly inappropriately) huge purchasing power of such coins meant that they were doomed to remain forever Patterns, until a new system of 2 and 5 Pounds was inaugurated in 1820, the year of George's death.

Despite their failure in the monetary realm, the Patterns of this period represent a vibrancy of artistry that clearly paralleled the aspirations of the monarchy. Certainly, between the engravings by Tanner and those of Yeo, the products of the former show a clear superiority of style. George is presented as youthful and yet heraldic, his locks of hair falling in a stately fashion to his shoulders, crowned by a laurel wreath, while his gaze is stern and unperturbed. The execution is nearly identical to his 2 Guineas Pattern of 1768, though with a slightly broader truncation to accommodate the ample space afforded by the larger flan. In terms of overall preservation, the fields are positively aglow with full mint flash, die polish studding otherwise hard mirrors, and just a few traces of copper spots giving some indication to its nearly 250-year age. As is seen on most surviving examples, a small die imperfection appears between the denticles and the second 7 in the date, while a minor unevenness on the rim above the D in DEI seems to be the result of a loose collar.

Although Wilson and Rasmussen only designate the 1773 5 Guineas as R4, suggesting 11-20 specimens known, we can hardly emphasize just how rare the present coin is, and feel that there is some indication that it may be scarcer than this figure implies. According to NGC's census, only this and one other specimen (surprisingly also a PR64 Cameo) have been certified, with none seen by PCGS, and auction results of the last 20 years have brought to light only 2 examples. From our research, we have been able to trace the following specimens, with the type notably absent from the Norweb, Brand, Garrett, Pittman, Kroisos, Hammel, Farouk, and LaRiviere collections:

- 1) **The J. G. Murdoch specimen.** Sotheby's (March 1904, Lot 120); Rev. Edward John Shepherd Collection (Sotheby's July 1885, Lot 454)
- 2) **The Douglas-Morris specimen.** Sotheby's (November 1974, Lot 131); Lady Duveen Collection (Glendining September 1964, Lot 57); Whetmore Collection (Glendining March 1943, Lot 24); George Hamilton-Smith Collection (Glendining May 1927, Lot 149)
- 3) **The Samuel King specimen.** Spink Auction 5028 (May 2005, Lot 180); Herman Selig Collection (Spink Auction 131, March 1999, Lot 1107); J. G. Brooker Collection (Purchased by Spink in 1973) = W&R-77 Plate Coin
- 4) **The Montagu specimen.** Spink (October 1890, Lot 510); Ex. William Brice (likely via private transaction)
- 5) **The Thos. H. Law specimen.** Stack's Bowers Auction 182 (January 2014, Lot 1003); The Zurich Collection (Stack's October 1985, Lot 1150); Reportedly ex. Wayte Raymond, Charles Wormser, and J. P. Morgan. Certified PR64 by NGC as of 2014.
- 6) **The Paramount specimen (this coin).** Spink Auction 97 (May 1993, Lot 66)
- 7) **Künker Auction 258** (January 2015, Lot 600)

Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



A Pistrucci Masterpiece: The 1820 Pattern 5 Pounds

30320 George III gold Proof Pattern 5 Pounds 1820 PR63+★ Ultra Cameo NGC, KM-Pn84, Fr-369, S-3783, W&R-177 (R4). By Benedetto Pistrucci. DECUS ET TUTAMEN. ANNO REGNI LX (raised) on edge. A legendary British rarity with a purported mintage of only 25 examples, the 1820 Pattern 5 Pounds in raised edge lettering ranks as one of the most important in the entire series, and an issue that remains outside the hands of all but a small group of privileged collectors. The masterful engraving of Benedetto Pistrucci comes to its full fruition in this opulent gold Proof format, an observation that necessarily leads one to the conclusion that this canvas-in-metal may well be the peak presentation of his designs, which were so prolifically employed in the contemporaneous silver crowns and sovereigns of the day, though never with the forceful combination gold production, Proof striking format, and sheer impact seen here.

In addition to its impressive rarity, the type is also notably one of the last designs issued in the name of George III. In fact, it was not put into production until after the King's death, Pistrucci having worked painstakingly, but failing, to finish the design before the King's expected demise. It is believed that William Wyon, also a recognized master of engraving, contributed to the completion of the work. Thus, this treasured specimen may be seen, not only as an homage to the late King, but also as a confluence of skill and expertise that easily allows the type to reach the ranks of the most important of all British coins, in addition to being one of the most beautiful.

The depth of cameo contrast is startling. Indeed, both George's portrait and the iconic St. George motif are heavily laden with a decadent blanket of golden frost that fully rivals those of current Proofs produced by technologically superior processes, engendering a magnificent aesthetic juxtaposition that remains sharp at every viewing angle. This effect is owed equally to the mirror finish of the fields, which demonstrate clear reflectivity to several inches, serving as a pondlike backdrop to the carefully engraved designs, themselves rendered with the utmost care to George's well-defined locks of hair and to even the most minute reverse features. Isolated hints of cupric tone are light and provide a further contrast against the sun-gold radiance of the offering, which, lacking in all but the most trivial instances of contact, earns both a "+" and "Star" designation by NGC in recognition of what can only be described as a sublime masterpiece.

Estimate: \$200,000-\$250,000



Lightly Toned Choice Proof 1826 5 Pounds

30321 George IV gold Proof 5 Pounds 1826 PR63 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM702, S-3797, L&S-27, W&R-213 (R3). 39.96gm. Lettered edge. By William Wyon after Chantrey, reverse by Jean-Baptiste Merlen. Mintage: 150. A quality representative of this Proof-only issue showcasing all the hallmarks of choice preservation. A bold strike lends exquisite detail to the intricate motifs, particularly to the reverse design, one that easily ranks among the most ornate of the 19th-century British series. Though George IV himself was no popular king, the sensitivity and attention to detail with which his bust is rendered provides an air of regal authority and grace that would be difficult to surpass, and this observation is only further supported by the generous amount of rich golden frost that graces his visage. Only an absolute minimum of handling is traceable across the raised features, resulting in a sublime velveteen texture that fully contrasts with the reflective fields beneath, these decorated with an appealing honeyed amber tone that contributes a unique and enhanced visual appeal to this select specimen.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Only the Third Example of this Cherished Rarity to Come to Auction in Recent Years

30322 William IV gold Proof Pattern Crown 1831 Proof Details (Obverse Tooled) NGC, KM-PnA98, Fr-381 (Very Rare), S-3833, ESC-2463 (R5; prev. ESC-272), Schneider-Unl., L&S-2, W&R-270 (R5). Plain edge. By William Wyon after Chantrey, reverse by Jean-Baptiste Merlen. Struck to the exact weight of 5 Sovereigns (and thus often mistaken for a 5 Pounds), this elegant Pattern Crown type is widely heralded as one of the most iconic rarities in the field of British numismatics, a masterpiece struck from dies engraved by William Wyon at the height of his illustrious career, and one of a mere 6 to 10 known specimens. Interestingly, Linecar and Stone record six primary auction results for the type in their work, three belonging to the same specimen (ex. Douglas-Morris, Hamilton-Smith, Blake, Lady Duveen), as well as the Nobleman, Lingford (also ex. Wertheimer), and Montagu (also ex. Addington) specimens, to which we can add the ex. Murdoch, Copp specimen, the Thos H. Law piece, and an example recently sold by MDC Monaco in October 2020, none of which—with the exception of the Lingford piece, which we have not been able to examine—appear to be this coin, suggesting an extensive period off the market. While the present example exhibits minor tooling in the field by the lower left of the truncation, the remnants of which are only a faintly irregular indentation in the metal and an array of shallow hairlines visible under only certain angles, it nonetheless retains extreme desirability as an example of this celebrated issue. As a whole, the piece retains much eye appeal, boasting fully frosted devices and heavily mirrored fields that are permeated by only a few scattered and wispy hairlines. **Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000**



30323 Victoria gold 1/2 Sovereign 1887 MS65 NGC, KM766, S-3869. Jubilee bust. A radiant gem with Prooflike qualities and an area of deep volcanic red tone present to the upper reverse.
Estimate: \$300-\$400

30324 Victoria gold 2 Pounds 1887 MS63 NGC, KM768, S-3865. Choice, with shimmering golden luster and mild reflectivity that resides within the fields.
Estimate: \$1,500-\$2,000



Choice Proof “Una and the Lion” 5 Pounds

30325 Victoria gold Proof “Una and the Lion” 5 Pounds 1839 PR63 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM742, Fr-386, S-3851, W&R-279 (R2). By William Wyon. A fully frosted and magnificently choice example of what is arguably the most iconic coin of the entire centuries-long British series—the Una and the Lion 5 Pounds by William Wyon. The type, inspired by “The Faerie Queen” of Edmund Spenser depicting the young Victoria as Una guiding the lion (Britain), remains revered across the world for its quality production, as well as its stellar design, one wholly unique for its time. The “Una,” issued as part of Victoria’s coronation Proof set, is widely considered one of Britain’s most beautiful issues. Though a very rare type with a mintage of just 400, there are a number of varieties of the “Una and the Lion” 5 Pounds; Wilson and Rasmussen identify a total of nine. While each has its own rarity rating in their book, ranging from R2 to R7, these are essentially irrelevant to the collector because of the overall rarity of the type.

Rich golden frost overlies the devices, yielding a sumptuous display of both the Queen’s youthful portrait and the reverse Una motif. The fields, meanwhile, are highly mirrored and nearly jet-black at a straight view, creating a sublime visual juxtaposition with these features—a cameo contrast that is not only complete but clearly visible from all viewing angles. A scratch crossing from the back of Victoria’s neck through her lowest hair curls is noted for accuracy, in addition to light hairlines that represent the norm for the type. Of those examples NGC has certified of the W&R-279 variety (the variety included in the Proof set), only two currently rank finer, a testament to the fine quality displayed by the present offering. In this fervent market for high-tier and rare coinage, we expect strong bidding for the ownership of this choice selection.

Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



Deeply Mirrored Proof 1887 5 Pounds

30326 Victoria gold Proof 5 Pounds 1887 PR63 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM769, Fr-390, S-3864, W&R-285. With a tiny mintage of 797 pieces, this specimen represents one of the most desirable 5 Pound issues in British numismatics, featuring an elegant Jubilee bust and the classic motif of St. George slaying the dragon. The present offering exhibits enviably Ultra Cameo contrast paired with an exceptionally bold layer of frost over the devices, only a scattering of faint hairlines preventing a higher designation. Impressive and well worthy of a premium bid.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



30327 Victoria gold Proof 5 Pounds 1887 PR62+ Ultra Cameo NGC, KM769, Fr-390, S-3864, W&R-285. Mintage: 797. Just shy of a choice designation, though it is fair to say that the visual appeal of this specimen easily rivals many coins found at that tier. The majority of contact is limited to minute hairlines, evenly distributed throughout the fields and thus of minimal impact to the aesthetics of the piece, which lacks any of the heavier-handed marks that are sometimes seen at even higher levels. A heavy coating of frost lends a soft, cloth-like velveteen texture to the devices, which stand in exceptional contrast against the sunflower-gold, attractively mirrored fields.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



30328 Victoria gold 5 Pounds 1887 UNC Details (Rim Filing) NGC, KM769, S-3864. Very lightly filed at the edges, yet highly lustrous and unusually watery, lending strong visual appeal despite gentle hairlines present in the fields.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,200



Superb "Ultra Cameo" Gem

30329 Victoria gold Proof 5 Pounds 1893 PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM787, Fr-395, S-3872, W&R-287. By Thomas Brock. Struck in a Proof mintage of only 773 examples, the 5 Pounds of 1893 embodies all that collectors love about the higher-mintage circulation series. Representing the long-reigning monarch Victoria in her later years and the British Empire within just a few short decades of its largest territorial extent, its presentation in Proof brings a vastly amplified aesthetic experience, combining the appeal of low production figures with the visual excellence achieved by exacting production standards. If all this is true, then the present offering ranks in an even higher class of its own, preserving such a degree of its original appeal that it truly borders closely to an as-struck state. The fields, flashy yellow-gold mirrors that appear nearly jet-black head-on, carry marvelous reflectivity unencumbered by any easily traceable signs of contact. The frost over the devices is nothing less than complete, resulting in an exquisite cameo contrast that heightens the collectibility of this offering, simultaneously engendering a sense of top-notch preservation that other examples would be hard-pressed to match, much less exceed. This observation is confirmed by NGC's census, which, to date, shows only a single more highly certified example. Given the inclusion of this extremely popular type in the world-class Paramount Collection, we can think of no more fitting conditional state than that seen here, nearly without equal, and spectacular to say the least.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



30330 Victoria gold 5 Pounds 1893 AU Details (Scratches) NGC, KM787, S-3872. A scarce one-year type from a mintage of merely 20,000, this stately issue enjoys much popularity as the penultimate currency 5 Pound piece to ever be produced. The present offering, while displaying a fair number of scratches over the surfaces, a feature not uncommon for the issue, retains full luster and appears essentially uncirculated, with only a slight touch of rub to the high points of the devices.
Estimate: \$2,000-\$2,500

30331 Edward VII gold Matte Proof 2 Pounds 1902 PR62 NGC, KM806, S-3968, W&R-406. Characteristically matte in appearance, according to the intended production standards for the type, with an evenly distributed arrangement of hairlines throughout the surfaces that establish the assigned grade.
Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



30332 Edward VII gold Matte Proof 5 Pounds 1902 PR63 NGC, KM807, S-3966, W&R-404. Brass-gold in color and lightly toned, the lack of any significant handling easily justifying the assigned choice grade. Sculpted to a full expression of detail, and a highly collectible representative of this popular issue that remains coveted in better states of preservation.

Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000

30333 Edward VII gold Matte Proof 5 Pounds 1902 PR62 NGC, KM807, S-3966, W&R-404. A highly presentable near-choice representative of this popular issue, with only gentle wispy hairlines present over otherwise clear surfaces, serving to cap the assigned grade. Well-struck, full detail expressed to the raised features, along with a lack of marks that might be considered distracting in hand.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



30334 Edward VII gold 5 Pounds 1902 AU58 NGC, KM807, S-3965. From a production of approximately 35,000, of which 27,000 were subsequently melted. Lustrous throughout, despite brief circulation, with cartwheeling brilliance held within the protected legends.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,200

30335 George V gold Proof 1/2 Sovereign 1911 PR64 Cameo NGC, KM819, S-4006, W&R-418. A sparkling representative of this popular issue, exhibiting mirror resplendence and a crisp cameo contrast resulting from the juxtaposition of frosted devices and reflective fields. On the cusp of gem preservation and thus a highly collectible example of the type.
Estimate: \$600-\$800



30336 George V gold Proof 2 Pounds 1911 PR64+ Cameo NGC, KM821, S-3995, W&R-415. Stunningly radiant, with hard mirrored fields and a degree of visual contrast between these and the devices that easily borders on a full “Ultra Cameo” designation. With all likelihood, only a trivial contact mark on George’s neck, of negligible impact to the presentation of the piece, precludes a full gem grade. Exceptionally appealing and highly collectible.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$2,500

30337 George V gold Proof 5 Pounds 1911 PR64 Cameo NGC, KM822, S-3994, W&R-414. Mintage: 2,812. Decidedly high-end for the type, due to a dramatic drop-off of certified examples above the “64” level. Its clean appearance is readily apparent, and only minute hairlines and a singular occurrence of wispy marks above the horse’s tail act to preclude an even finer designation. The surfaces clearly lack any discernible instances of handling or contact, while a light frost over the raised devices couples with mirrored fields to yield a subtle cameo effect. A spectacular near-gem in total.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



30338 George V gold Proof 5 Pounds 1911 PR64 Cameo NGC, KM822, S-3994, W&R-414. From a sparse mintage of 2,812 pieces, this is the sole 5 Pound issue produced during the reign of George V. The present specimen offers splendid mirrored fields and surfaces essentially unmarked by flaws or blemishes, save for a handful of thin and wispy hairlines. All in all, there is very little to prevent this piece from the acquisition of an even higher gem designation.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 523)

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000





The Legendary Edward VIII Pattern 5 Pounds - The Coin Even a King Couldn't Have

30339 Edward VIII gold Proof Pattern 5 Pounds 1937 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-406 (Very Rare), S-4063, Schneider-Unl., L&S-Unl., W&R-432 (R6), Dyer-Plate D, Giordano-P13 (RRRR). Reed-ed edge. By T. Humphrey Paget, reverse design after Benedetto Pistrucci. Within the whole of the British series, few coins can claim to inspire such awe and controversy as the emissions of Edward VIII. Presenting a beloved prince who was as much a product of the roaring 20s of his youth as he was remembered for trying to escape from under the thumb of his father, George V, Edward VIII's coins are at once as provocative as was the man himself. Breaking with centuries of British numismatic tradition, perhaps the most immediate feature of the King's issues is his left-facing bust, positioned just as the portraits employed on his father's coins. Since the transition of power from Oliver Cromwell to Charles II, the Kings of England had adopted a style of alternating the direction of their busts with each change of monarch, and while records exist to document the long discussions between Edward and his Chancellor of the Exchequer, Neville Chamberlain, the ultimate decision was made to keep the King's portrait in this profile. Edward was indeed no stranger to taking steps that flew in the face of what was conceived at the time as "conventional" (particularly in his father's opinion). His style of dress and mannerisms were considered "simple" and "frank," much to the delight of the common people and in opposition to what could have been called kingly or royal.

Despite extensive preparations having been made for the production of specimen coronation sets “in accordance with custom” for distribution to collectors and important persons, plans for Edward VIII’s coinage were ultimately cut short by his decision to abdicate the throne to marry Wallis Simpson, a commoner and yet the woman he loved, after just 10-1/2 months of rule. Though Peck, following the Royal Mint reports from 1935-1936, records that over 200 dies for coins, medals, and seals were prepared—clearly indicating that the mint had all intentions of producing a full series of issues for circulation—these were ultimately destroyed after Edward’s fateful decision. As such, the coinage that was struck was confined to a series of special-purpose Patterns, rather than issues for general use. Interestingly, reports of the time also cite “A Coronation set of gold coins consist[ing] of four pieces - £5, £2, £1 and a half-sovereign” (Daily Telegraph, 10 July 1936), though, controversially, no 1/2 sovereign was ever minted.

Attempting to trace all surviving examples of these Patterns still in existence, Joseph Giordano, in his *Portraits of a Prince*, recorded approximately 6 sets known to him in 2009, most of which have been broken-up since their initial issuance. Indeed, when the Royal Mint took an inventory in September 1950, it reported only 3 complete sets in existence, and all evidence indicates that that number today can be reduced to two—one in the collection of the Royal Mint itself, and the only other held privately, residing in the Tyrant Collection. Likely the most desirable coin of the set for its effortlessly imposing stature, as much as its status as the largest denomination produced in Edward’s name, the 5 Pounds is known from a mere two specimens in private hands: this piece, and the aforementioned representative in the Tyrant Collection. It seems hardly an extrapolation to propose that the present offering may very likely be the finest in existence. Outranking the Tyrant specimen by a full two grade points and its Ultra Cameo designation, this coin can easily be regarded as virtually perfect. Coupling unbroken matte frost over the features with beaming mirrorlike reflectivity that dominates even from a distance, a rotation in hand reveals night-and-day contrast that makes the fields appear jet-black. Even under high magnification, the fields are free of even the most insignificant wisps of handling, instead disclosing fine die polish lines that further confirm its painstaking preservation over the last 84 years.

To the best of our knowledge, not a single example of the Edward VIII 5 Pounds has come to auction in at least the past 20 years, if not longer. What is more, while both the Richard Lobel Collection and Spink’s November 1997 catalog of the LaRiviere and Kaufman Collections contained an example of the Proof Crown—and the former also had the Farthing, Penny, 6 Pence, Shilling, and ½ Crown—neither had an example of the 5 Pounds. Nor, for reference, did the Schneider Collection contain a single issue of Edward VIII. According to our research, approximately 5 coins of Edward VIII have crossed the auction block in recent years, providing some indication to the level of interest that such types inspire:

- 1) The Edward VIII Pattern Sovereign (ex. Hemisphere and R. E. Gibson collections) – Realized a hammer price of £430,000 (approximately \$729,000 at the time) in May 2014 (uncertified and described as hairlined over both sides). Brokered by the Royal Mint for £1,000,000 (\$1.3 million) in January 2020 (when it was described as having been certified PR63 Cameo).
- 2) The Edward VIII Pattern Crown (ex. Richard Lobel Collection) – Realized a hammer price of \$300,000 in January 2020 (uncertified)
- 3) The Edward VIII Pattern 6 Pence (ex. Richard Lobel Collection) - Realized a hammer price of ¥5,000,000 (approximately \$45,583 at the time) in January 2019 (certified PR63+ by PCGS)
- 4) The Edward VIII Pattern Penny (ex. Waterbird and Richard Lobel collections) - Realized a hammer price of £111,000 (approximately \$138,500 at the time) in September 2019 (certified PR63+ Red and Brown by NGC)
- 5) The Edward VIII Pattern 3 Pence (ex. Penn Collection) – Realized an all-in price of \$63,000 in our January 2021 NYINC Auction #3089 (lot 31245) (certified MS61 by NGC)

Friedberg also records that a 2 Pound piece was auctioned in London, November 2001, for £58,000 (approximately \$85,000 at the time), though we have been unable to consult that specimen.

By all measures, then, bidders should consider the opportunity presented here to be truly once-in-a-lifetime. A surviving letter exchanged between the Duke of Windsor and his brother, George VI, reveals that even Edward himself was refused his request to obtain a set for himself, and we, therefore, feel it is fitting to state that this is the coin that even a “king” couldn’t have. An absolute paragon in the field of British numismatics, and the undisputed star of the Paramount Collection.

Estimate: \$1,000,000 and up



GUATEMALA



30340 George VI gold Proof 5 Pounds 1937 PR64★ NGC, KM861, Fr-409, S-4074, W&R-435. Mintage: 5,500. Of inspiring quality and technical caliber for this largest coronation set issue of George VI, the sun-gold, mirrored fields bright and luminous. Touches of a light silver patina are traceable in the fields, with a hint of a cameo contrast observable at most viewing angles, though this is not noted on the holder. A “star” of a coin.

Estimate: \$7,000-\$9,000



30341 Republic gold 20 Quetzales 1926-(P) MS62 NGC, Philadelphia mint, KM246, Fr-48. A scarcer issue in this state of preservation, featuring bold, brilliant luster that shines readily from beneath a faint pinkish patina.

Estimate: \$1,500-\$1,800

HUNGARY



30342 Ferdinand I Medallion 1-1/2 Taler 1541-Dated AU55 NGC, Kremnitz mint, Voglhuber-33, Montenuovo-603, Horsky-904 var. (weight), Markl-2036, MzA-24. 40.57gm. By Christoph Fueszl. Among the most beloved Schautaler types of Ferdinand's reign, rendered in a gratifying and undeniably medallion format that leaves the entirety of the devices struck-up to the peak of possible relief, resulting in even the most minute elements of the designs expressed in full detail. A type that is frequently found with evidence of mounting, tooling, or later gilding, the current offering presents no such problems, the light handling that exists does little to distract the eye, while an accenting russet tone silhouettes the central and marginal features alike.

Interestingly, while this medallion presentation seems to commemorate Ferdinand's election as King of the Romans in 1531 at the instigation of his brother, Charles V, the year that it carries also witnessed the Siege of Buda, when the Ottoman sultan installed John Zapolya as client King of Hungary, limiting Ferdinand's domain to the far west of the country.

Ex. Künker Auction 86 (September 2003, Lot 1001)

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



30343 Ferdinand I gold “Last Supper” Medal of 10 Ducats 1534-Dated MS63 NGC, Husz-21, Horský-Unl., Julius-Unl. 44mm. 35.14gm. By Christoph Fueszl. A very rare production commemorating the Last Supper, displaying the iconic scene of Christ seated with the apostles to his sides. The carefully engraved design features a striking degree of detail, a lustrous gleam emanating from the recesses and open areas alike to indicate a degree of preservation that is decidedly within the bounds of Mint State. The first that we have seen, and truly superb. For comparison, we note that an example (the only one that we could locate) sold in a European auction for a hammer price of 8,000 Euros in April of 2017, despite a noted repair and the presence of some wear.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



30344 Matthias II gold “Wedding to Anna of Austria” Medal of 4 Ducats 1611 AU58 NGC, Montenuovo-711, Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl. 13.87gm. Struck upon Holy Roman Emperor Matthias II’s coronation as King of Hungary in Pressburg, and for his wedding to Archduchess Anna of Austria, daughter of his uncle, the Archduke Ferdinand II of Austria. Very rare in gold, with the only other example we could locate in the last two decades selling in a European auction in June of 2015 for a hammer price of 6,000 Euros, despite noted (and easily visible) repairs, scratches, and significantly more wear than the present piece, which displays a firm near-mint condition coupled with glimmering golden luster and an admirable degree of preservation. Unlikely to become available meaningfully finer than this.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$20,000



Spectacular Mint State Ferdinand II 5 Ducat

30345 Ferdinand II gold 5 Ducat 1637/6-KB MS63+ NGC, Kremnitz mint, KM-A105, Fr-93, Herinek-1157, Husz-Unl., Unger-883. 17.43gm. An extraordinarily rare multiple ducat of exceptionally fine engraving style, struck on dies used for the 1/2 Thaler (KM73) issue. The obverse features the armored bust of Ferdinand with an extravagant ruffled collar, and the reverse a double-headed eagle with the shields of arms of Bohemia and Hungary at its breast. While many large gold types of this era depict heavy cleaning and mistreatment, the present piece is admirably free of such flaws and positively beaming with bright luster. The strike is bold and full, and the angles of the devices shine with watery golden brilliance that readily charms the eye. Of extreme rarity, this being the sole specimen certified by either PCGS or NGC, and almost certainly the finest survivor of the type; it is difficult to imagine an example that could surpass the present piece in terms of overall quality.

Ex. Künker Auction 80 (March 2003, Lot 889)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Shimmering and Alluringly Toned Multiple Ducat

30346 Leopold I gold 5 Ducat 1674-KB AU50 NGC, Kremnitz mint, KM182, Fr-125, Horsky-Unl., Husz-1288, Unger-972. 17.18gm. Date mislabeled as “1574” on insert. A fantastic representation of this fleeting 17th-century multiple ducat maintaining stark luminosity and scintillating brilliance despite a modest period spent in circulation. The surfaces, warmed by a soft red-champagne tone, carry light across the open expanses and protected peripheries alike, conveying much of the appeal of Mint State condition while also indicating a likely storied use in contemporary exchange. Connoisseurs of the Hungarian gold series will almost certainly be familiar with the gold ducats of Leopold, standing cloaked and armored with regalia in hand, but collectors accustomed to that visual and tactile experience cannot help but be awed by the larger format of the series’ multiples, which, in relative terms, rank few and far between. It is just such an example that we present in this lot, and we don’t doubt that bidders will find this particular offering as visually inspiring as we do.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



Sensational Mint State Leopold I 5 Ducat

30347 Leopold I gold 5 Ducat 1675-GC MS61 NGC, Pressburg mint, KM199 (Rare), Fr-156, Horsky-Unl., Husz-1299 (R17), Unger-980, CNA-41-l-2. 17.47gm. Georg Cetto as mintmaster. A piece of paramount rarity within the Leopold I series, this 5 Ducat issue is perhaps the second example to have come to market in the last two decades; we note that a similar example recently emerged in a European auction in September 2019, where it hammered for €165,000 (Auction 50, Lot 5035). As if the scarcity of this issue was not enough, the present example possesses an extraordinarily striking aesthetic—upon rotation under light, the surfaces positively gleam, each facet of the ornate design brightened by sparkles of golden brilliance. A pinnacle representative of the ubiquitous Madonna and Child design, and sure to attract much attention from collectors of Hungarian rarities.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



30348 Leopold I gold 5 Ducat 1703-NB UNC Details (Plugged) NGC, Nagybanya mint (in Transylvania), KM-A257, Fr-134 (misabeled on the holder as Fr-103), Husz-1295 (R12), Unger-977b, Resch-Unl., CNA-114-a-2. 17.05gm. Johann Christian Brettschneider as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM257). Date reworked from 1702. An iconic commemorative that was treasured for its status, leading many examples to suffer from damage caused by mounting and piercing. Even though the current selection shows traces of a repair near 12 o'clock, this does little to disturb the visual appeal or surrounding surfaces of the coin as a whole. The strike over both sides has been well-executed, with no traces of weakness detected, while the lustrous surfaces are free of noteworthy, post-strike imperfections. To date, only a single example has been awarded a straight grade from NGC, with this piece reportedly tied with one other for the second finest-certified by that service. For reference, the last representative of the date we sold, graded AU Details (Holed), achieved \$9,600 in our January 2020 Auction #3081, confirming the high level of desirability for this type in all states of preservation.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



Resplendent Near-Gem 10 Ducat of Leopold I

30349 Leopold I gold 10 Ducat 1675-KB MS64+ NGC, Kremnitz mint, KM-Unl., Fr-122, Horsky-Unl., Husz-1272a (R16), Unger-957b (Unique), CNA-41-i-1. 34.78gm. Year at end of reverse legends. An excessively rare type and likely one of only a small handful known, with Dr. Emil Unger's work describing the issue as "unique." We have located one other example, also in Mint State, which sold in a European auction in March of 2013 for over \$70,000 hammer. While it is impossible to compare the quality of the two, it is extremely doubtful that the previous offering would have been finer than the present piece, which is highly lustrous, sharp, and decidedly near-gem in appearance. This specimen, the only one certified by either NGC or PCGS, is exceptionally brilliant, carrying sun-gold radiance across its sleek surfaces, unmarred by heavy-handed contact. Only the faintest of light wisps establish the assigned grade, with the strike yielding engaging and decisively-rendered design motifs at every turn, including an exceptional portrait of the Emperor. Meanwhile, crisp legends frame the central features, bathed in golden opulence. Incredibly rare, both as a type and so finely preserved, such an offering is bound to add inestimable prestige to whichever collection it ultimately enters.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



30350 Leopold I gold 10 Ducat 1703-NB AU Details (Plugged, Repaired) NGC, Nagybanya mint (in Transylvania), KM-A253, Fr-133, Husz-1282 (R16), Unger-966, Resch-Unl., CNA-114-a-1. 34.53gm. Johann Christian Brettschneider as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM257). Date reworked from 1702. A type which almost always comes in poorer technical states, when it is locatable at all, with even the Eliasberg example showing a clear mount removal. For reference, the last (and only) specimen that we handled was certified UNC Details (Mount Removed, Repaired) from NGC, and yet it nonetheless realized \$33,600 in our January 2018 NYINC sale. Although the present coin does contain tooling in the fields, the strike is well-centered, and wear has been kept to a minimum, while hardly any camber or evidence of bending is observed on the flan. Entirely unknown to Resch, this selection seems to be only the third representative to come to auction in recent years. As such, a coveted opportunity for collectors. This lot is sold with an old handwritten tag, dated to September 11, 1933.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



30351 Christian Hermann Roth gold Medallic Restrike “St. George” 5 Ducat ND (c. 18th Century) MS63 NGC, Kremnitz mint, Fr-563, Husz-6. 39mm. 17.30gm. 18th-century restrike of the original 17th-century (c. 1645-1690) issue. An impressive later striking of this coveted multiple ducat design, originally produced by Christian Hermann Roth as part of the larger 17th-century series struck at Kremnitz by the Roth family. These were made as a sort of “good luck talisman” as well as a status symbol. Admirably preserved in choice condition, a sheen of golden luster carrying across the fields with marvelous luminosity upon rotation and inspection, all minute details retaining their as-struck clarity.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$5,000



30352 Karl Wilhelm Becker gold Medallion Restrike “St. George” 10 Ducat ND (1820-1830) UNC Details (Bent) NGC, Kremnitz mint, cf. Fr-571 (original issue), Husz-29. 44mm. Struck in Kremnitz beginning in the 17th century, these medallion multiple ducat issues, featuring extravagant renderings of Saint George slaying the dragon and of Christ and the apostles battling heavy seas, were thought to bring good luck and protection from harm and were carried by their owners. The present issue was struck by Karl Wilhelm Becker (1772-1830), well-known as a forger of ancient coinage and one of the later engravers of the present type, whose signature appears in the obverse truncation. We are unable to determine the cause for the designation of “Bent,” as the gentle waviness apparent throughout the fields seems as struck.

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



ISLAMIC DYNASTIES



30353 Franz Joseph I gold “Coronation Anniversary” 100 Korona 1907-KB MS64 NGC, Kremnitz mint, KM490, Fr-256, Husz-2213. From a mintage of 10,897, and struck in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of Franz Joseph’s coronation in Hungary. Overall superb, with heavily frosted matte devices and watery brilliance throughout the fields, the presence of a small scratch to the lower right of the truncation perhaps being the only factor limiting a gem designation. We note that NGC no longer differentiates between Proof and Mint State examples for this issue. **Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000**



30354 Ottoman Empire. Abdul Aziz gold 500 Kurush AH 1277 Year 1 (1860/1861) AU58 NGC, Constantinople mint (in Turkey), KM698, Fr-125, cf. Pere-916 (different date), UBK-pg. 61 (RR). Mintage: 3,180. The seldom-encountered accession year for this largest gold denomination struck in the capital of the Ottoman Empire, and the third-lowest mintage date in the series, just behind the Year 3 and prohibitively rare Year 5, for which it is supposed that only 2 pieces were struck. Preserving a glassy mint luster within the protected loops of the toughra, the present offering is currently the finest of only two certified between NGC and PCGS combined, with a survey of recent auction records revealing a paucity of Year 1 examples coming to market, and the date altogether missing from the Hans Wilski Collection.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 1273)
Estimate: \$2,500-\$3,000



Joint-Finest Certified Year 11 500 Qirsh

30355 Ottoman Empire. Abdul Aziz gold 500 Qirsh AH 1277 Year 11 (1870/1871) MS63 NGC, Misr mint (in Egypt), KM265, Fr-78 (Rare), Pere-Unl., UBK-pg. 71 (RRRR). Mintage: 200. A supreme conditional rarity within this already challenging series, and the first of only 4 dates for this denomination under Abdul Aziz's reign. Typically encountered with noticeable cleaning, damage from use in jewelry, or basic circulation wear, the surfaces on this specimen, however, are nearly Prooflike, with elegant calligraphy that has been sharply rendered, and underlying recesses that retain a layer of satin mint luster. Incredibly preserved—and a tremendous feat as such—given that Friedberg simply calls this issue “Rare” in UNC condition. Presently tied for the finest certified at NGC and a piece that is sure to garner interest among connoisseurs of Ottoman coins.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$17,000



30356 Ottoman Empire. Abdul Aziz & Muhammad al-Sadiq Bey gold 100 Piastres AH 1279 (1862/1863) MS63 NGC, Tunus mint (in Tunisia), KM149, Pere-Unl., UBK-pg. 78 (RR), Fenina-384. Struck from dies produced in Birmingham. The first year of issue for the type, and conditionally rare when located so fine, this offering is currently tied with only one other example at NGC in this top level of certification. Collectors of this series are familiar with the often poor states of preservation encountered for Ottoman Tunisian coinage, as most survivors suffer from heavy circulation or cleaning. This specimen, however, contains booming luster that effortlessly cartwheels the surfaces on rotation and satin texture that has accumulated around the intricate leaves of the wreaths, producing fully choice eye appeal. A date that was entirely missing from the Wilski Collection.

Estimate: \$2,500-\$3,000



30357 Ottoman Empire. Abdul Hamid II gold 500 Qirsh AH 1293 Year 1 (1876/1877) MS61 NGC, Misr mint (in Egypt), KM286, Fr-89, Pere-973, UBK-pg. 107 (RRR). Notable as the first year for the Abdul Hamid's Egyptian 500 Qirsh, and a splendid representation at that. Subtle cartwheel luster beautifully careens across the surfaces on rotation, and though some extremely minor chatter is observed in the open expanses, it remains well within the confines of the assigned grade. Undoubtedly Mint State in its appearance, with a mere 2 pieces ranking half a point and a point finer at NGC. While the mintage for this particular date is not recorded, the miniscule mintage for the Year 6 (reported as 5, though speculated by UBK to be as high as 30), indicates the paltry figures being produced around this period.
Estimate: \$7,000-\$9,000



30358 Ottoman Empire. Abdul Hamid II gold 500 Qirsh AH 1293 Year 1 (1876/1877) AU58 NGC, Misr mint (in Egypt), KM286, Fr-17, Pere-973, UBK-pg. 107 (RRR). Fully struck and revealing only minor rub at the highest points of the devices, the surrounding fields exhibiting an even scattering of handling amidst a consistent lustrous gleam that enlivens the surfaces from every angle of inspection. A scarcer issue that remains highly desirable to collectors, particularly so in this near-mint preservation.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 57 (September 2003, Lot 3339)
Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000

ITALY

GENOA



30359 Genoa. Republic 2 Scudi 1627 XF45 NGC, KM59, Dav-LS547, MIR-215/8. 77.26gm. Visually rich owing to a soft cabinet tone of silty russet and silver color, which evenly blankets the surfaces. Inspection unveils glints of mint luster underneath, taking on a distinctive glossy appearance by virtue of the overlying patina. Truly unique in its visual appeal, and as delightful as any circulated specimen could be, owing to the unique combination of tone, brilliance, and complexion. Very scarce, and the first representative of this fleeting issue that we have offered to date.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000

30360 Genoa. Republic 2 Scudi 1682-SM AU53 NGC, KM82, Dav-LS553, MIR-290/18 (R2). 76.60gm. An attractive representative of this expansive 17th-century emission whose broad flan enables a level of presentation in the detailed motifs beyond that which is possible in smaller-sized denominations. Graced with a soft steel and graphite tone, the devices gently lightened at the higher points to yield an appealing visual contrast. Only minimally rubbed atop the raised features, with faint hairlines visible in the fields. One of only a small handful of the type, previously none of this date, that we have had the privilege to offer.

Estimate: \$1,500-\$2,000



Gem Mint State 5 Doppie of Genoa

30361 Genoa. Republic gold 5 Doppie 1647-IBN MS65 NGC, KM100, Fr-427, CNI-IIIb.1, MIR-257/11 (R3), Bellesia-86/I (R3), Lunardi-263. 33.25gm. The first example we have seen of this exquisite and highly elusive gold Madonna and Child type, admirably centered with lovely, satin-sheened surfaces over a bold strike. While this denomination was struck intermittently from 1640 to 1697, examples of this series are infrequently encountered in auction, with the most recent sale of this particular date taking place just over ten years ago. The appeal of the present piece extends far beyond even this imposing level of rarity, standing in a league of its own as a conditional gem for this era of hammered Italian gold coinage; unsurprisingly, it is the finest certified of the date at NGC, and may very well be the finest known survivor of the type as a whole.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



A Fantastic Genoese Rarity - The 12 Doppie e Mezzo

30362 Genoa. Republic gold 12-1/2 Doppie 1650-IBN AU Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, KM86 (Rare), Fr-425 (Rare), CNI-IIIb.1, MIR-254/6 (R5), Bellesia-83/E (R5), Lunardi-254. 83.25gm. An awe-inspiring rarity that ranks among the most desirable coins of the entire Genoese series, superseded in the vastness of its splendor only by the similarly unattainable 25 Doppie, which also saw intermittent production in a handful of years between 1638 and the earlier part of the 18th century. Its impressive size renders this fantastic golden example nearly identical in scale to its only slightly larger 2 Scudi counterparts of similar design, with its composition in gold confirming, even at face, the rarity supported by major references. Indeed, in this golden presentation the heavenly motifs that are so representative of Genoa's coinage are elevated to their fullest form and potency. As implied by the "AU" grade assigned, only trivial rub is noted to the higher points of the design, though this is rendered nearly irrelevant by the sheer strength and sharpness of the devices. Brass-gold light shimmers across the planchet, some signs of a past light cleaning evident, though doing little to detract from this exceptional specimen. Some etching is visible in the fields to the left and right of the Madonna and child image, yet this is easily of lesser importance due to the offering's general boldness. An all-around stunning example, bordering on medallic in its proportions and presentation, and a singular opportunity for the specialized collector seeking only the best of this challenging series.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



30363 Genoa. Republic gold 96 Lire 1797 MS63 NGC, KM251, Fr-444, Lunardi-360 (R2). A choice emission of this Madonna and Child gold issue featuring shimmering golden luster that carries nearly Prooflike reflectivity. Only light wisps and minor abrasions are noted. The designs themselves, typically soft at the higher points and lightly adjusted, remain clearly outlined and rise in bold clarity above the watery fields.
Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000





GUASTALLA





10 Doppie Ultra Rarity of Guastalla

30364 Guastalla. Ferrante II Gonzaga gold 10 Doppie 1610 MS61 NGC, KM13 (Rare), Fr-458 (Very Rare; this coin), CNI-IXa.17 (not illustrated), MIR-353 (R5), Bellesia-8 (R5). 66.35gm. Extremely rare, and very likely a unique opportunity, not just in this exalted Mint State condition, but at all. Every consulted reference calls this impressive golden offering of the early 17th century either “Rare” or “Extremely Rare.” *Monete Italiane Regionali*’s rating of “R5” corresponds to “of the greatest rarity” and a maximum of 4 examples known, while Bellesia, who assigns a similar rarity rating, states that only a single example was known in the Civiche Raccolte Archeologiche e Numismatiche in Milan. It is arguable that even a cursory review of the piece’s appearance should engender a sense of this elusiveness, with gold coinage in this imposing stature and weight being markedly challenging for the period in general, and even more so for this small duchy in particular.

The sheer luster of the specimen, coupled with a medallion precision of detail, elevates the eye appeal to a level that easily feels leagues beyond the preservation normally implied by the grade assigned. Glistening aurous brilliance emits with stark clarity across the fields, cascading over nearly undisturbed surfaces, studded with the finest die polish lines. Every central detail is sharp and clear, with Ferrante’s portrait, presented in Roman dress, projecting boldly toward the beholder. The reverse scene of the biblical Annunciation is yet more striking in its visual impact and reveals an expression of both emotion and clarity that easily invites prolonged admiration, bolstered by the glittering qualities of the open areas surrounding, which are bathed in warm light and toned to a fetching deep sunset golden color. Rarely does such a high caliber of eye appeal intersect so perfectly with sublime rarity, and we can only imagine the fervent level of interest that this magnificent and imposing relic will generate. A once-in-a-lifetime chance.

Ferrante (I) Gonzaga led a brilliant military career and eventually purchased the small fiefdom of Guastalla in 1539. The town, established on the banks of the Po river in close proximity to Mantua, was located on the crossroads of numerous trade routes, bestowing it with a clear geographical importance to regional commerce. Charles V eventually granted Ferrante the right to mint coins, though this would only come to fruition under his successors, including his grandson, Ferrante II, under whom the County of Guastalla was elevated to a duchy. In his newly granted position as Duke, Ferrante II played an important role in the War of the Mantuan Succession, fighting on the Imperial side. He would eventually lose the duchy to his distant cousin, Charles III, the Duke of Nevers, and he died of plague in 1630. All gold coinage of his rule is considered very or extremely rare.

Estimate: \$150,000-\$250,000



MILAN



Incredibly Historic Gold Medal of Galeazzo Maria Sforza - Perhaps the Only Example in Private Hands

30365 Milan. Galeazzo Maria Sforza gold Medal of 10 Ducats ND (1466-1476) VF Details (Reverse Damage) NGC, Fr-686, MIR-Unl., (cf. MIR-M6 for similar issue of Ludovico Maria Sforza in silver), Gneccchi-1 (Unique?), Gneccchi Collection-Unl., CNI-Va.1, Crippa-26/A (R5; 3 known, with this piece possibly cited). 37mm. 34.45gm. A piece that instantly casts a light on the period and historical context of its production, with the emissions of the Sforza dynasty of Milan occupying a unique position in the history of Italian coinage. Coming to power as the fifth Duke of Milan upon the death of his father, Francesco (who founded the Sforza line of Dukes in 1450), Galeazzo's relatively brief reign corresponded with a time of nearly unprecedented cultural and artistic revival in Italy—the craft of the Renaissance medal having just been established by the famous artist Pisanello, who died only 5 years later. Indeed, it might not be a stretch to see the present piece as Galeazzo's attempt to commemorate the glory of his house through this new medium, as although a few medals were produced under his father, it was this that was the first to be struck in gold.

Known for his cruelty and opulence, as well as his patronage of the arts, within 3-4 years of the beginning of his reign, documents indicate that financial crises were already emerging at the Milan mint, caused by the rising prices of precious metals in conjunction with burgeoning demand for gold and silver (in which the Duke almost certainly had a hand). Nonetheless, pieces such as this still managed to find production, with the incredibly scant number of surviving specimens perhaps owed to this financial crisis, and not aided by widespread distaste for Galeazzo himself.

In 1986, Crippa recorded only 3 known examples of this medal, one housed in the Civici Musei di Brescia in Italy, a second in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna (Münzkabinett n. 6801 b α), and a third which he simply states “is part of a very old private collection” (possibly referring to this example). Unsurprisingly, there have not been any specimens available in recent memory. This type, while recorded from the Brescia specimen in Gneccchi's *Le monete di Milano*, was altogether missing from the L. & L. Hamburger's 1902-1903 sales of his collection. As such, this may be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to obtain what appears to be the only representative in private hands.

Ex. Guia Collection (Bowers & Merena March 1988, Lot 623)

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Unique Gold Testone Struck for Charles V's Homage by the Senate of Milan

30366 Milan. Charles V (1535-1556) gold Medallion Testone d'Oro della Pietà ND (c. 1535) XF40 NGC, cf. CNI-Va.37 (in silver), Gneecchi-Unl., Gneecchi Collection-Unl., MEC XII-Unl., MIR-Unl., Bellesia-47 (R5; this coin), Crippa-26/A (Unique?; this coin). 19.40gm. By Leone Leoni. Reportedly produced for Holy Roman Emperor Charles V's homage by the Senate of Milan after he had annexed the duchy as an imperial state in 1535, it would seem hardly surprising if this very specimen was intended for presentation to a key participant in the ceremony. Drawing heavily from Roman motifs, the reverse scene depicts Pietas seated on a curule chair, holding a patera in her right hand (a traditional bowl used for offerings) and flanked by a cuirass on either side. Though the design and layout seem to have prototypes in several different Roman Imperial issues, such as the denarii of the Emperor Hadrian and sestertii of Trajan, closest both for its plethora of legends and style of Pietas, ironically, is a Sesterius of Caligula produced c. AD 40-41 for his dedication of the Temple of Divus Augustus (cf. RIC I-51). Whether or not this was indeed the model from which Leoni drew inspiration, it is notable as the first gold type of a Holy Roman Emperor produced in Romanesque fashion since the Augustales of Frederick II which were struck c. 1230-1250. Evenly worn over the highpoints, though without noticeable damage, it is easily imaginable that this medallion selection is as imposing today as it was nearly 500 years ago.

Research has revealed that this type is entirely unique in gold. Any potentially additional examples are altogether absent from the collections of either Gneecchi or Vittorio Emanuele III himself, while Crippa, in his foundational work on Milanese coinage, reports that he was unable to locate a single other piece in gold in the public and private collections he consulted. As such, missing from public auction records for over 30 years, with the only price point coming from its previous sale in the Guida Collection in 1988, where it realized \$17,600. With silver specimens realizing between \$10,000 and \$15,000 in recent years, we can only speculate on the fierce competition bidders will encounter when trying to add this rarity to their own collections.

Ex. Guida Collection (Bowers & Merena March 1988, Lot 633); Otto Helbing Auction 73 (October 1933, Lot 1405)

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Possibly Unique Medal of 10 Ducats

30367 Milan. Maria Theresa gold “Joseph II as Co-Regent” Medal of 10 Ducats ND (c. 1780) XF45 NGC, Horsky-Unl., Julius-Unl., Gneocchi-Unl., Gneocchi Collection-Unl. 39mm. 34.02gm. Engrailed edge. Unsigned, but possibly by Christian Vinazer (1747-1782), a medal of his with identical portraits appearing as Julius-1918, and also dated to circa 1780. Struck in gold to the weight of 10 Ducats, this medal features the bust of Joseph II with his titles over the obverse, and the portrait of Maria Theresa in widow’s veil with her titles on the reverse. As this medal commemorates the co-regency of the two rulers, it must be dated prior to the death of Maria Theresa on November 29th, 1780. Entirely absent from our searches of major references and auction records, this type would appear at the very least extremely rare; indeed, it has been noted as “Unique” by the consignor, and may be considered as such. In terms of condition, the piece is quite attractive, with minimal true wear and some remnants of luster, a few shallow scratches in the obverse fields perhaps accounting for a slightly lower grade than would otherwise be assigned.

Following the death of Maria Theresa’s husband, Francis I, their son, Joseph II, ascended to the title of Emperor and was appointed co-regent by his mother in the Austrian dominions. During this period of co-regency, the dethroned Empress refused to relinquish much of her sovereign power to her son, and until her death in 1780 his decisions as emperor were heavily dominated by her political principles, many of which were in direct contrast to his own.

Ex. Guia Collection (Bowers & Merena March 1988, Lot 633)

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



30368 Milan. Franz II gold Sovrano 1800-M MS60 NGC, Milan mint, KM241, Fr-741a, Herinek-230. Flashy and bold, with a faint touch of cabinet friction to the obverse surfaces perhaps accounting for the assigned grade.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 4036)

Estimate: \$600-\$800



MODENA



Imposing and Ultra Rare Modena 12 Scudi d'Oro

30369 Modena. Francesco I gold 12 Scudi d'Oro (12 Doppie) 1633 MS62 NGC, KM-(Fr)773 (Rare; this coin), Fr-773 (Rare), Gnechi Collection-Unl., MIR-722 (R5), cf. Bellesia-23 (for 8 Doppie dated 1631), CNI-IXb.128. 39.33gm. An exceptional golden rarity issued under Francesco I d'Este, Duke of Modena from 1629 to 1658, who notably began work on the Ducal Palace, later completed by Francis V. Struck during the turbulent period of the Thirty Years' War and following the devastating effects of the 1629-1631 Italian Plague episode that saw huge death tolls throughout the wider Italian peninsula and in Modena itself, a coin of this gold weight would have represented an enormous value at the time of issuance. Both the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and Friedberg call this issue "Rare," though even this distinction may represent somewhat of an understatement, and the sheer rarity of the issue is only further bolstered by this particular example's use as the plate coin in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*. Lustrous and uncirculated, with sharp features highlighted by glistening brilliance that easily traverses the fields and a soft gold foil texture that attracts a prolonged gaze. This tremendous offering represents a giant of numismatics that may well be irreplaceable by virtue of its combined spectacular rarity and admirable conditional state.

Ex. The International Sale (Stack's March 1988, Lot 1291)
Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000

NAPLES & SICILY



30370 Naples & Sicily. Francesco I gold 30 Ducati 1826 MS63
NGC, Naples mint, KM296, Fr-862, MIR-472, Pag-104a, Gig-2a. The final year in this scarce two-year series. Enveloped by satiny cartwheel luster, with a uniform spread of vertical die polish lines over the reverse fields that lends a faintly matte-like overall texture. A lovely representative and quite scarce so fine, tied with only one other example as finest certified by NGC.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000

30371 Naples & Sicily. Ferdinand II gold 30 Ducati 1833 MS61
NGC, Naples mint, KM312, Fr-866, MIR-484. A decidedly difficult gold emission of the Naples mint, featuring the bare bust of the young King and a stately reverse design depicting the personification of Bourbon. Surpassed by only one example at NGC, with lightly handled surfaces touched by gentle ripples of watery luster.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



PAPAL STATES



30372 Naples & Sicily. Ferdinand II gold 30 Ducati 1852 MS61 Prooflike NGC, Naples mint, KM368, Fr-866, MIR-487/2. Delightfully watery over luminous sun-gold fields, whose just subtle curvature to the obverse results in a superb interplay of light and color. Admirably struck, with essentially full detail in Ferdinand's fine hair and superb definition in the winged angel's feathers and torso. The glasslike fields and exceptional sharpness render this specimen a formidable selection of the type, as well as one that is easily admirable for prolonged periods owing to its vivid imagery and luster.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$5,000

30373 Papal States. Alexander VII gold "St. Peter's Basilica" Medal 1662-Dated AU Details (Mount Removed) NGC, cf. Lincoln-1214 (in bronze), Mazio-269, Bartolotti-E662. 39.44gm. By G. Morone. Exceedingly scarce, with only a small handful known or encountered at auction to date. The offering displays very gentle signs of a prior mount removal at the upper periphery, though exhibits sharp detail across bold motifs and glints of original luster evidenced throughout the fields. A fleeting opportunity for the specialized collector of Vatican medals!

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



30374 Papal States. Clement X Piastra MDCLXXV (1675) UNC Details (Mount Removed) NGC, Rome mint, KM371, Dav-4081, B-2005. 31.84gm. Highly lustrous and of generally exceptional quality for this conditionally challenging and scarce issue. Though traces of the noted mount removal may be present on the edge, covered by the holder, we find no evidence of it to either the obverse or reverse. A praiseworthy representative of this artistic and highly detailed type.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 844)

Estimate: \$700-\$1,000



30375 Papal States. Innocent XI Piastra MDCLXXVI (1676) MS63 NGC, Rome mint, KM391, Dav-4084, B-2059. 32.04gm. Highly lustrous, with fine die polish lines in the fields yielding a sharp display of light and character, this choice Piastra vastly exceeds the majority of known survivors due to its standout preservation. Predominantly toned in soft silver, with isolated traces of soft pale gold and aquamarine coloration to the lower obverse periphery, all details uniformly sharp and lacking any identifiable traces of weakness.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 846)

Estimate: \$1,500-\$2,000



30376 Papal States. Pius VII silver “Vatican Museum” Medal 1822-Dated UNC Details (Mounted) NGC, Lincoln-Unl., Rinaldi-17, Bertuzzi-161. 45mm (with mount). By Giuseppe Cerbara. Struck on the opening of the new Chiaramonti arm of the Vatican Museum. Produced in high relief and deeply toned, with hints of sky-blue and crimson iridescence held within the recessed sections of the reverse.
Estimate: \$150-\$250



30377 Papal States. Pius IX gold 100 Lire Anno XXI (1866)-R MS63 NGC, Rome mint, KM1383, Fr-278, Pag-519. From a total issuance of 1,117 examples, and thus a relatively more difficult issue in the modern Italian series. Boldly struck, with fully outlined devices set within gleaming fields carrying sharp traces of die polish. Far better than most, and tied for the finest of this date seen by either major grading service.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 854)
Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000

30378 Papal States. Pius IX gold 100 Lire Anno XXIII (1868)-R MS61 NGC, Rome mint, KM1383, Fr-278, Pag-520. Struck in a reported mintage of only 545 pieces, the second-lowest of this short-lived issue, produced from 1866-1869. Watery in the fields, with a noteworthy orange-gold tone that overlays the faces, creating a handsome visual allure.
Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000

RETEGNO



Outstanding Retegno 10 Zecchini

30379 Retegno. Antonio Gaetano gold 10 Zecchini 1686 AU Details (Obverse Scratched) NGC, KM31, Fr-989, MIR-905 (R5), Bellesia-5 (R4). 34.47gm. Hailing from this small Italian commune, made a barony by Ferdinand II in 1654, this highly elusive multiple remains outside the hands of all but a select group of collectors, due to its extreme scarcity. It appears that no other examples have come to auction in the better part of two decades, and this specimen represents the first example of the type that we have encountered in our history. Inspection reveals a balanced strike, leaving a uniform expression of detail to both sides. The reverse motif features a sphinx atop an ornate crest—a design that is unique to the 10 Zecchini of Retegno, produced only in 1677 and 1686—and is shown here with fully outlined detail to this design, while the corresponding obverse image presents clear sculpting within Gaetano's long curls of hair, cravat, and armor. A sheen of golden luster overlays the surfaces, owing to its faint degree of circulation wear, while isolated scratches to the obverse fields cross through the "VL" of the legend and run vertically toward the rightmost section of the open expanses. Given the clear lack of alternative survivors, a singular bidding opportunity.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 84 (October 2002, Lot 1550)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



SARDINIA



Immense Sardinian 5 Doppie

30380 Sardinia. Carlo Emanuele III gold 5 Doppie (Carlino) 1755 AU Details (Rim Repair) NGC, Turin mint, KM53, Fr-1103, MIR-941a (R5), Mont-117 (R3), Bellesia-133/A (R2). 47.95gm. A massive and seldom-seen gold issue of Sardinia, overall quite pleasing in appearance, with bright, warm luster and only the faintest indications of circulation upon the high points. Slight evidence of repair work at approximately 10 o'clock on the reverse rim accounts for the grade, but the damage is quite minimal. Only the third example of this incredibly rare type we have handled, the next closest we sold, an AU55, achieved \$50,400 as part of our August 2019 Platinum Night auction. Standing as one of only four total pieces certified to date by NGC, it is truly a magnificent coin, sure to enhance any collection.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000

30381 Sardinia. Carlos Felice gold 80 Lire 1825 (Eagle)-L UNC Details (Reverse Scratched) NGC, Turin mint, KM123.1, Fr-1132, Pag-26. An array of scratches appear within the lower left quadrant of the reverse, though hardly diminish the coin's clearly uncirculated status. A scarcer issue in any Mint State quality.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 732)

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,500



30382 Sardinia. Carlo Alberto gold 100 Lire 1834 (Eagle)-P AU58 NGC, Turin mint, KM133.1, Fr-1138. A handsome sun-yellow specimen with fully intact luster and only a touch of wear to the high points of the devices. AGW 0.9331 oz.
Estimate: \$1,500-\$1,700



SAVOY



**Virtually Mint State Carlo
Emanuele II 10 Scudi d'Oro**

30383 Savoy. Carlo Emanuele II gold 10 Scudi d'Oro 1641 AU58 NGC, Chambéry or Turin mint, KM202, Fr-1069, Gneccchi Collection-5051, Bellesia-82/A (R4), MIR-73 (R9), CNI-Ib.12. 33.00gm. A conditionally sublime example of this very rare issue, and without a doubt among the finest in existence. Issued under Carlo Emanuele II, Duke of Savoy from 1638 to 1675, this magnificent 10 Scudi ranks among the largest denominations of his rule, exceeded in size only by the 20 Scudi d'Oro produced contemporaneously to this formidable specimen. Beyond its sheer rarity, what stands out most immediately about this piece is its captivating conditional state. Indeed, despite a recognition of the mildest circulation wear by NGC, this fact is nearly insignificant in hand—the surfaces retaining a profound glistening brilliance that easily rolls over the open expanses of the flan. Meanwhile, well-crafted devices rise in near-medallic character, drawing the eye in for closer inspection. The overall perception is essentially that of a Mint State coin, considering the complete lack of any immediately obvious signs of circulation. We know of only a single “MS61” certified finer by NGC, but it is difficult to imagine this lovely and highly appealing orange-gold specimen aesthetically exceeded due to its sheer beauty and visual impact.

Estimate: \$80,000-\$120,000



30384 Savoy. Carlo Emanuele II gold 10 Scudi d'Oro 1663 MS61+ NGC, Turin mint, KM270.1 (this coin), Fr-1082 (Rare), Biaggi-670 (R10), MIR-795a (R9), Bellesia-98/G (R4; this coin). 33.21gm. A glorious representative of this highly elusive large gold emission struck under the authority of Carlo Emanuele II, the Duke of Savoy. Though Emanuele's efforts in the Second Genoese-Savoyard War would ultimately prove fruitless, he nonetheless accomplished great things during his rule, including major improvements in the realm of commerce and in the construction of important buildings, such as the Palazzo Reale. This large gold specimen serves as a testament to the dynamism of an age in which smaller and now extinct states actively vied for power and control, and its large stature leaves no doubt as to the contemporary purchasing power that it would have represented. Gleaming golden luster glides over the fields with grace, tempered only in its potency by a hint of silvery patination. Though areas of trivial lightness are evident in the strike, the Duke's hair curls and dress retain an abundance of minute detail, drawing the eye toward the center, with exceedingly light friction proving of minimal visual impact. It is a great testament to the unattainability of the type that this very coin has been placed in numerous references consulted, and indeed, no other auction results are available from the past many years.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



SICILY



30385 Sicily. Ferdinand IV Oncia (30 Tari) 1791 GL-CI AU58 NGC, Palermo mint, KM221, Dav-1420, MIR-597 (R2), Spahr-2. 68.26gm. By every measure, absolutely superb. Virtually medallic in scale, with Ferdinand's bust crafted to a laudable relief and towering over the fields beneath. The strike is nothing less than exceptional, and the surfaces display a soft silvery tone, ember-red outlining the King's image and the peripheral legends. Only the barest hint of friction is evident across the fields, save for a single shallow mark below the eagle's beak to the reverse, while glistening argent luster permeates the luxurious patina throughout.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000

VENICE



Incredibly Rare Gold Issue of Francesco Morosini

30386 Venice. Francesco Morosini gold Osella of 4 Zecchini Anno III (1690)-PP MS62 NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., CNI-Unl., Paolucci II-338, Bellesia-198 (R4). 13.89gm. Paolo Pisani as mintmaster. St. Mark seated at left presenting staff, with cross and pennant at top, to Doge kneeling at right; mintmaster's initials below / Sword and belt below richly decorated cap. An incredibly rare type that is unlisted in several references, and which seems to have been off the market for at least twenty years, perhaps as far back as 1985, as per Bellesia an example is known to have appeared in a Numismatica Varesi auction in November of that year. The present example offers almost inconceivable quality for an issue of such elusiveness, with a freshness of surfaces and boldness of strike that leave little to be desired. A piece of utmost charm and appeal, and most likely a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the collector of rare Venetian issues.

Francesco Morosini was Captain General of the Venetian forces during the Turkish War, and during the Siege of Athens in 1687 was responsible for the destruction and looting of the Parthenon. He was the first living Venetian citizen to have a bust placed in the Great Hall.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



30387 Venice. Silvestro Valier gold Osella of 4 Zecchini Anno IV (1697)-AB AU55 NGC, KM-XA203, Fr-Unl., CNI-Unl., Paolucci II-348, Bellesia-Unl. 13.87gm. Andrea Baffo as mintmaster. St. Mark seated at left presenting staff, with cross and pennant at top, to Doge kneeling at right, date in exergue / Arm in armor holding bare cross, mintmaster's initials in exergue. The first auction appearance of the type in over two decades to our knowledge, and entirely absent from several references. Quite attractive for the grade assigned, with little visible evidence of circulation and bright, nearly full luster, while an appealing touch of reddish tone occurs throughout the surfaces.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



Extremely Rare Mint State 25 Zecchini

30388 Venice. Silvestro Valier gold 25 Zecchini ND (1694-1700) MS61 NGC, KM440 (Rare), Fr-1350 (Rare), CNI-Unl., Bellesia-203 (R5), Paolucci-113.1 (R6). 87.18gm. A famed ultra-rarity of the Venetian multiple zecchini series, thought by Paolucci to number between only 1-3 specimens known. Thus, very likely a unique opportunity not to be encountered again for decades into the future. Had the type been plated in standard references, it likely would have been this very coin that would grace the pages of numismatic literature, for its visual appearance may well exceed even the reputation of its rarity. Nearly perfectly centered, the strike renders engaging motifs that are expressed to their fullest glory in this heavy golden format. Collectors of the Venetian series will be well-accustomed to the familiar images of Christ and the Doge of Venice kneeling in front St. Mark, though only a select few can claim to have even seen a coin that begins to compete with the sheer scale of this offering. A subtle multi-faceting of the fields yields a decidedly gem-like appearance, glistening luster careening across the surfaces with striking intensity to confirm close care in preservation these past three centuries. Gentle wisps, while establishing the assigned grade, pale in comparison to the magnificence with which the central motifs are expressed. All stated, a coin for the ages, and doubtlessly one of the most highly desired issues, not just of this Doge, but of the entire Venetian series.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Apparently Unpublished Gold Osella of 5 Zecchini

30389 Venice. Alvise Mocenigo II gold Osella of 5 Zecchini Anno V (1704)-PB MS62 NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., CNI-Unl., Paolucci II-Unl., Bellesia-Unl.. 17.40gm. Piero Basadonna as mintmaster. This denomination is unlisted in all the major references, with Paolucci only including the 4 and 6 Zecchini types. The issue features the standard image of the Doge kneeling before St. Mark, opposite an artistically striking depiction of a blooming rose that stretches to face the personified crescent moon. In the empty fields of the night sky, a spread of stars provides a lovely balance of elements that culminates in what may easily be one of the most beautiful designs in the Doge series. If the illustrations of this piece alone do not elicit satisfactory awe, the condition is beyond reasonable criticism: fully Mint State, the surfaces glow with ripples of soft luster, emphasizing a bold, entirely intact strike. Entirely missing from the Gnechi, Morosini, and Vittorio Emanuele III collections, and simply a fantastic specimen, which by all indications is very possibly unique in this weight. Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Impressive 25 Zecchini of Giovanni Corner II Struck on a Highly Medalllic Flan

30390 Venice. Giovanni Corner II gold 25 Zecchini ND (1709-1722)
AU55 NGC, KM489 (Rare), Fr-1364 (Rare), Paolucci-118.4 (R5), Bel-
lesia-236 (R5), CNI-VIIIb.91. 86.82gm. A coin which instantly makes the
 details of the famous scene of St. Mark anointing the Doge of Venice,
 normally available only in the small single zecchini, all the more appre-
 ciable. Benefitting from, and even seeming to boast in, its broad format,
 the coin demonstrates almost perfect centering on an extra broad flan that
 noticeably extends past the denticles. Though scattered contact bounds the
 assigned grade, the facial features of Corner, St. Mark, and Christ retain
 a delightful expressiveness; all of the designs, in fact, remain quite clear.
 Interestingly, this piece appears to have been struck from the same reverse
 (as holdered) die later used for the 20 Zecchini of Alvise Mocenigo IV
 also included in the Paramount Collection, showing the same distinctive
 styles on the Q, C in DVCAT, and A in DAT especially (though the die
 would have been mildly reworked on the 20 Zecchini, which was minted
 around 40 years later!). If anything, this fact can perhaps be taken as an
 indication of the enviable style that the engraver accomplished. Missing
 from recent auction results, the next closest comparison we can draw for
 the curious bidder is to a 15 Zecchini of the same Doge, certified XF45,
 which we sold in our April Auction #3083 for an all-in price of \$50,400

Estimate: \$70,000-\$90,000



30391 Venice. Alvise Mocenigo III gold Osella of 4 Zecchini Anno II (1723) MS64 NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-1378, CNI-VIIIb.65, Paolucci II-380, Bellesia-269 (R4). 13.97gm. Exceptional in preservation and highly elusive, this commendable offering pushes the bounds of the highest quality that could be expected of its type. Osellas were traditionally struck for presentation by the Doge of Venice to important officials and dignitaries, rendering them both highly historical as well as aesthetically impressive, owing to the attention to detail that accompanied their production. A strike in gold, then, is arguably the apex of desirability, and very few such issues survive in higher conditional tiers. This near-gem example exhibits a strike just slightly high-of-center, with rotation unveiling a luminous sheen of glowing luster that rolls across the surfaces, unimpeded by any noteworthy marks or handling. Ironically, in light of their intended use in presentation, many of these Osellas display uneven strikes and other minor issues. While some evidence of this is also apparent here, slight irregularity noted to various features, the primary motifs are easily discernible, including the image of the kneeling Doge, as well as the reverse depiction of Christ blessing the personification of Venice, accompanied by the Venetian lion. We note that this offering is the only example of its type certified by NGC to date.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



30392 Venice. Alvise Mocenigo III gold Osella of 4 Zecchini Anno IV (1725)-PAT MS61 NGC, KM-X250, Fr-Unl., CNI-VIIIb.73, Paolucci II-382, Bellesia-271/A (R2), Gamberini-1369. 13.89gm. Pier Antonio Trevisan as mintmaster. St. Mark seated at left presenting staff, with cross and pennant at top, to Doge kneeling at right; date and mintmaster's initials in exergue / Enthroned personification of Venice rising from the waters. Very desirable in this uncirculated quality, fully intact mint luster pervading the surfaces and accentuated further by a spread of handsome old-gold tone. A wonderful example of this beautifully designed and exceptionally rare issue. We note that the date has been misattributed as "1729" on the NGC holder.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000

30393 Venice. Alvise Mocenigo III gold Osella of 4 Zecchini Anno VI (1727)-PQ MS61 NGC, KM-X254, Fr-Unl., CNI-VIIIb.82, Paolucci II-385, Bellesia-273 (R4), Gamberini-1374. 13.92gm. Piero Querini as mintmaster. St. Mark seated at left presenting staff, with cross and pennant at top, to Doge kneeling at right; date and mintmaster's initials in exergue / The Bucintaur sailing left, four gondolas below, radiant sun and clouds above, date in exergue. An extravagantly designed gold issue depicting the Bucintaur (bucintoro), the state galley of the Doges of Venice used every year on Ascension Day to carry the Doge out to the Adriatic Sea in a symbolic marriage of Venice to the sea. Fully uncirculated, with all details of the design rendered in crisp, sharp fashion; a slight waviness to the central area of the planchet should be mentioned for completeness, but is as-struck and does not detract from the overall appeal.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



Stunningly Well-Preserved and Potentially Unique 15 Zecchini

30394 Venice. Alvise Mocenigo III gold Scudo della Croce of 15 Zecchini ND (1722-1732)-VQ MS66★ NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., CNI-Unl., Paolucci-Unl., Bellesia-Unl. 52.36gm. Vincenzo Querini as mint-master. Described as Paolucci-136.2 var. on the holder, referring to the piece's design, struck with Scudo Della Croce dies, though this example is struck in a heavier weight of 15 Zecchini, rather than the listed 12 Zecchini. The specimen's rarity is without question, and it may well be unique, as the consignor posits. Even then, what brings the status of this offering to a truly elite level is its stunning preservation; its gem-quality is indisputable, placing it within a foremost tier across all coinage in the wider series of which it is a part. Brightly shimmering luster in the fields remains intense and unbroken by any noteworthy instances of handling or contact, earning the specimen a "Star" designation by NGC for exceptional eye appeal. In total, a stunningly preserved specimen of the utmost scarcity, all but ensuring that another opportunity will not exist until this offering is seen again, perhaps many years from now.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Potentially Unique 25 Zecchini of Carlo Ruzzini

30395 Venice. Carlo Ruzzini gold Scudo della Croce of 25 Zecchini ND (1732-1735)-BV AU58 NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., CNI-Unl., Paolucci-Unl., Bellesia-Unl. 87.12gm. Benetto Valier as mintmaster. Labeled on holder insert as Paolucci-137.1 var. (10 Zecchini). A spectacular and presumably unique production in gold, apparently struck from dies employed in the striking of the contemporary Scudo emissions of Carlo Ruzzini, 1732-1733. While larger multiple Zecchini are nearly always rare in their own right, this consistently unlisted issue takes it to the highest level of rarity, with no other examples known to us or located in auction archives. The quality of strike remains consistent with the Scudos of the era, though the production in gold leaves little doubt as to the special nature of this offering, with the heft of over 87 total grams in weight leaving an immediate impression upon any beholder. Though deemed just barely circulated by NGC, this specimen displays essentially full golden luster, only minor wisps and an area of contact in the central right obverse field pointing to any real handling since the piece's production nearly 300 years ago. A sublime historical relic in every respect.

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



Choice Pietro Grimani Gold Ducatone of 12 Zecchini

30396 Venice. Pietro Grimani gold Ducatone of 12 Zecchini ND (1741-1752)-FP MS63 NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., CNI-VIIIb.15, Paolucci-138.8, Bellesia-Unl. 41.86gm. Francesco Pasqualigo as mintmaster. An exceedingly rare gold striking by Ducatone dies, produced to a 12 Zecchini weight standard. While the listed weight of 41.45gm for the *Corpus Nummorum Italicorum* specimen indicates the existence of at least one other example, we could not locate any in auction records, and it is quite likely that only a small handful exists, at most. This offering, then, preserved in choice condition, is all the more impressive and stands well above what might be considered “average” quality for this anything but common wider series, which encompasses all gold Ducatone weight multiples of Grimani’s dogeship. A delicate satin texture is presented throughout, with luster glistening over fields that are absent any meaningful instances of handling to deter the eye. Anybody fortunate enough to experience this singular specimen in hand will agree: an opportunity to acquire a finer example of the type is either impossible or unlikely to be encountered again in a lifetime.

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



30397 Venice. Francesco Loredan gold Scudo della Croce of 12 Zecchini ND (1752-1762)-GAC UNC Details (Obverse Scratched) NGC, Venice mint, KM-Pn151, Fr-1478 (Rare), CNI-VIIIb.1, Paolucci-138.1, Bellesia-Unl. Giacomo Antonio Contarini as mintmaster. A bold offering of the highest rarity, and only the second example of the type that we have seen in our history, with this specimen clearly outranking that sole representative by virtue of its inarguable Mint State condition. Widely referred to as a Scudo “della Croce” (of the cross) for its prominent reverse display of an ornate cross, the obverse of this Venetian rarity features the instantly recognizable Venetian lion within the frame of a shield, surrounded by legends stating the name of St. Mark (the patron saint of Venice) and the name of the esteemed city. The denomination of 140 Soldi below indicates a strike with dies normally intended for the production of that type (cf. KM613), which, taken together with the piece’s production in gold, explains the denomination’s name: the Scudo d’Oro. Inspection reveals a fully Mint State preservation, glistening brilliance enlivening the fields at every turn. While some lightness of strike is evident atop the winged lion, the general impression is otherwise one of immense and clear detail, the struck features sharply expressed and decidedly crisp in character. Even friction is minimal throughout, and this offering would likely have been recognized for that preservation if not for a pair of short scratches to the right obverse field. However, these seem largely irrelevant in light of the piece’s numismatic significance, and we accordingly expect strong bidding for the right to own this rare representative hailing from “The Most Serene Republic.”

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000



Possibly Unique Alvise Mocenigo IV 8 Zecchini

30398 Venice. Alvise Mocenigo IV gold Ducato of 8 Zecchini ND (1763-1778)-GMB AU55 NGC, cf. KM672 (same denomination, different design), Fr-1420 var. (same), CNI-VIIIb.35 (possibly this coin), Paolucci-139.17, Bellesia-365 (same). 27.77gm. Giustiniano Maria Badoer as mintmaster. Struck in gold from dies employed in the striking of the Ducato issues of the same Doge (cf. KM663), and the only example of this type of which we are aware, similarly described by the consignor as "unique." Those closely familiar with the Ducato series would find themselves hard-pressed to not be awed by the present offering, whose golden luster survives intact across the entirety of the obverse and reverse faces, embellishing design motifs that are raised in clear profile, excepting only minor areas of softness. Very nearly uncirculated, with only trivial highpoint rub, and designated as such by NGC. The *Corpus Nummorum Italicorum* interestingly lists the type, unlike most references, in a near-identical weight to that of this example (27.78gm vs 27.77gm), introducing the distinct possibility that the listing may in fact be based on this very coin. All stated, a singular opportunity for the advanced collector of the Venetian or, more broadly, Italian series.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



Astounding Choice Mint State 20 Zecchini

30399 Venice. Alvisè Mocenigo IV gold 20 Zecchini ND (1763-1778) MS63 NGC, KM678.1 (Rare), Fr-1416 (Rare), CNI-VIIIb.116, Paolucci-129.7 (R4), Bellesia-360 (R5; this coin). 69.72gm. Variety with six-pointed stars surrounding Christ, and long tail on Q. A coin which quite simply defies all expectations—an extraordinarily rare multiple zecchini preserved in Choice Mint State condition. Indeed, while a Venetian gold coin of this size can be counted as a true prize in-and-of-itself, finding one that has escaped both dings and cleaning is a nearly unbelievable feat. Lavishly produced on a comparatively even flan for the series, not a trace of detail is under-expressed or left wanting, with St. Mark and the Doge standing in nearly medallion relief against the mildly Prooflike fields. Awarded an R5 designation by Bellesia, indicating “only a few known,” that same reference cites just two auction appearances for the type: one as part of Stack’s March 1988 International Collection sale (lot 1388), and the other sold by Montenapoleone of Milan in May 1989, which could be this coin. Otherwise absent from auction records of the last several decades and missing from the holdings of Gneecchi and Morosini, we can think of no better prize for even the most scrupulous collectors of Venetian coinage.

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



Very Rare 5 Zecchini of the Final Doge

30400 Venice. Ludovico Manin gold 1/2 Ducato of 5 Zecchini (1789-1797)-AB UNC Details (Plugged) NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-Unl., CNI-Unl., Paolucci-Unl., Bellesia-Unl. 16.43gm. Andrea Bon (?) as mintmaster. St. Mark seated at left presenting staff with cross and pennant at top to Doge kneeling at right; mintmaster's initials in exergue / Lion of St. Mark striding to left, head facing forward, left paw resting on open book, above which is a castle on a hill. An incredibly rare issue, unlisted in the present denomination in all major references and absent from all auction records of the last two decades in our searches. We are additionally unable to find any record of or reference to an issue of Ludovico Manin with the present mintmaster's initials of "AB," though issues bearing these initials are known of the years 1785-1786 and are credited to Andrea Bon. An expert plugging at the obverse 2 o'clock area of the legend does little to detract from the overall appeal, the piece retaining full mint luster and a bold strike.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



30401 Venice. Lodovico Manin gold 8 Zecchini ND (1789-1797) AU Details (Holed) NGC, KM759 (this coin), Fr-1441, CNI-VIIIb.64, Bellesia-422 (R4), Paolucci-10 (R3). 27.62gm. Struck on an expansive and medallion flange, this rare offering couples alluring motifs with a general preservation that is on the very boundary of Mint State. The surfaces remain highly lustrous, decorated in an abundance of golden brilliance that glistens in a captivating display throughout the entirety of the fields, while the devices exhibit commendable clarity to even the highest points. The light rub to the devices that is to be expected in an upper-tier circulated state remains nearly imperceptible, resulting in an allure that easily competes with that of uncirculated specimens. Wispy hairlines throughout may be judged as exceedingly mild and, truly, the only “flaw” of note is the punched-through hole at 12’clock, which allows for easy identification of this charming selection as the very same one pictured in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*.

Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



An Extraordinary Rarity from Venice's Final Doge

30402 Venice. Ludovico Manin gold 30 Zecchini ND (1789-1797) AU58+ NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-1438a (Rare), CNI-Unl., Paolucci-131.4 (R5), Bellesia-416 (R5). 104.79gm. A splendid gold multiple from this final Venetian Doge, and an emission which instantly leaves an impression on its beholders. Though not the largest gold emission from his reign (an honor which belongs to the 105 Zecchini), the rarity of the present coin cannot be overstated, as this denomination was missing from the collections of Gnecci, Morosini, and even Vittorio Emanuele III himself. Moreover, while Bellesia makes an entry for the 30 Zecchini, he records no sales records for the type in his *Monete Italiane d'Oro*. The only such example we have been able to locate at auction in recent memory, this offering complements its absolute scarcity with an enviable state of preservation. Fully struck-up in all of its facets, even the most minor of doubling in the legends does not obstruct appreciation of the designs; each element—from the ripples in St. Mark's and Manin's robes down to the ornate frills on the cushion on which the Doge kneels—are rendered in stunning clarity. Even while light chatter in the fields bounds the designation, this is quickly offset by a prominent degree of underlying luster, which brightens the surfaces from all angles. Simply a coin which must be viewed in-hand to be fully appreciated.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 89 (October 2003, Lot 293)
Estimate: \$70,000-\$90,000

KINGDOM



From a Mintage of Only 579

30403 Vittorio Emanuele II gold 100 Lire 1864 T-BN MS62+ NGC, Turin mint, KM19.1, Fr-8, MIR-1076a, Pag-451. A rare issue from a tiny mintage of 579 pieces, elusive in any surviving condition but especially so in Mint State. The present piece is unquestionably superior for the issue, bordering on choice, and decorated by flashy yellow-gold brilliance that emits slight wateriness at certain angles. An impressive specimen worthy of a strong bid.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



30404 Vittorio Emanuele III 5 Lire 1914-R MS63 NGC, Rome mint, KM56, Dav-144, Mont-114, Gig-72, Pag-708. Uniformed bust right / Minerva, holding branch and shield, standing left behind ornate quadriga drawn by four horses. A magnificent representative of this beloved and highly artistic type that features the iconic neo-classical imagery of a Roman quadriga, soft luster dancing over the boldly rendered design elements, underscoring an attractive spread of multicolored tone.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 755)

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



30405 Vittorio Emanuele III 20 Lire Anno IX (1931)-R MS65 NGC, Rome mint, KM69, Dav-145, Mont-70, Gig-40, Pag-676. An excessively rare and difficult issue with a reported mintage of only 50 pieces, offered here in enviable gem quality and tied with only one other example as the finest certified by NGC. Even for the assigned grade, the present piece is uncommonly attractive, boasting velvety satin fields and an utter lack of contact marks or hairlines. An exceptionally desirable specimen of this popular type.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 297 (October 2003, Lot 118)
Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000



30406 Vittorio Emanuele III gold 100 Lire 1903-R MS62 Prooflike NGC, Rome mint, KM39, Fr-22, Pag-638. A two-year type of clear importance to the series owing to low mintages of only 966 in 1903 and 1,012 in 1905. The Prooflike qualities of this impressive offering provide heightened visual appeal to what can only be deemed a coveted issue, with the overall presentation essentially rivaling the single finer-graded MS63 example that we previously sold in January of 2015 for a total of \$28,200. Lightly frosted over the devices, resulting in an amplified visual contrast against fields that retain bright and watery sun-gold luster. Only gentle wisps of handling establish the assigned grade, with a pinpoint strike yielding expressive clarity to even the smallest details in Vittorio Emanuele's hair and the eagle's feathers and crown.
Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000



30407 Vittorio Emanuele III gold Specimen Prova 100 Lire 1907 SP63 NGC, KM-Pr7, Pag-148. Pre-modification design of 1910-1927 100 Lire, KM50. A fleeting and very rare Prova issue with the word “PROVA” in small lettering to the upper left of the date to the reverse, one of several distinguishing factors that separates this issue from the later circulation type, first struck in 1910. This specimen bears a similar design, though with alterations to Vittorio Emanuele’s uniform, as well as other modifications, including the placement of PROVA where the mintmark “R” appears on the circulation type, and significant changes to the reverse background scenery. Semi-medallic in presentation, the luminescent fields are filled with stark mint brilliance, surrounding sharp features bearing a rich coating of golden frost. An attractive coin limited in grade only by light hairlines in the fields, and one of only two “Specimens” holdered by NGC, proving highly collectible in this confirmed, choice conditional state. For reference, the most recent offering that we could locate, the sole example certified finer by NGC, at SP66+★, sold in a European auction for nearly \$140,000 in December of 2020.

Estimate: \$10,000-\$20,000



MADAGASCAR



Singular Gold Pattern of Madagascar

30408 Ranavalona III gold Proof Pattern 5 Francs 1895 PR62 Cameo NGC, KM-XM3c (Unique), Lec-35 (1 Known), Gad-10 (same), VG-Unl. 34.47gm. Incuse lettered edge. Struck by Pinches & Co. at the order of Dr. Reginald Huth of London. A possibly unique Pattern in gold, and described as such by the *Unusual World Coins* catalog, Gadoury, and Lecompte. Admirably frosted across the raised motifs, including the sharp peripheral legends, lending an attractive cameo appearance juxtaposed with reflective golden fields. Light contact marks are noted to the right obverse field, though are scant enough to justifiably earn the specimen a choice grade designation by NGC. Fully struck, with not a hint of weakness traceable across the raised motifs. A singular opportunity to own this exemplary Pattern of the highest rarity.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 89 (October 2003, Lot 414); Likely Farouk Collection (Sotheby's February 1954, Lot 1264), though the quality of the photographic plates makes a direct comparison difficult

Estimate: \$10,000-\$20,000

MEXICO



The First Milled Dollar of Mexico

30409 Philip V “Milled” 8 Reales 1732 Mo-F MS62 NGC, Mexico City mint, KM103, Cal-1437 (prev. Cal-774), Cay-9349. The milled Spanish Dollar, with its iconic Pillars of Hercules design, was the foremost coin of its time, seeing use across the globe in both commerce and daily exchange. It was with this very date, the first in the series, that this instantly recognizable type entered onto the world stage. Issues dated 1732 are the recognized king of the series, which spanned nearly four decades before the introduction of the subsequent “Bust” type 8 Reales in 1772. Though a royal decree of 1728 had authorized the striking of circular coins in the Spanish realm, it was not until March 29, 1732, following the mintage of milled portrait-style 8 Escudos, that the first ‘Pillar’ 8 Reales were struck at Mexico City; gaining widespread popularity, minting quickly extended throughout the Spanish colonies, and they circulated widely in the Americas and the young United States.

This selection, ranked within the top three of all certified examples of the issue (which currently number only 13 in total), displays an aesthetic quality that in many ways seems outsized for the assigned grade. Admitting some trivial highpoint softness, the strike is generally sharp, resulting in devices that are admirably outlined, rising in clear relief against the fields below. A fitting steel tone, carrying undertones of sunset orange-gold, decorates the surfaces to both the obverse and reverse alike, revealing bright glints of mint luster underneath, alongside a level of handling that seems absolutely minimal for the grade designation. No hits, knocks, or scratches are visible, leaving only the faintest friction as a possible grade-limiting factor. The result is a truly eye-appealing coin, one whose quality presentation only further adds to the allure of its incontestable rarity.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



30410 Philip V gold Cob 8 Escudos 1712 MXo-J MS62 NGC, Mexico City mint, KM57.1, Fr-6, Cal-2208 (prev. Cal-104), Cay-9261. 26.76gm. From the 1715 Plate Fleet. The rare "bar end cross" variety with "ears" in the corners of the reverse cross, only seen on issues of 1711-1712. Struck on a broad flan, with much of the reverse design visible and the final two numerals of the date legible upon the obverse; dated examples of this variety are excessively uncommon, and indeed this piece represents the sole such example certified by NGC to date. Unquestionably Mint State, lustrous, and an ideal representative of the type.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 85 (October 2002, Lot 469)

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000



Mint State 1715 Mo-J 8 Escudos

30411 Philip V gold Cob 8 Escudos 1715 Mo-J MS64 NGC, Mexico City mint, KM57.2, Fr-6, Cal-2214 (prev. Cal-109), Cay-9274. 26.98gm. Plain tressures variety. From the 1715 Plate Fleet. Near-gem, well-struck and awash with soft satiny luster, the date on this specimen is fully legible on the obverse. An elusive and treasured date in the series, seldom found as such. Tied with one other example as finest in the NGC census.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 85 (October 2002, Lot 475)

Estimate: \$18,000-\$22,000



30412 Ferdinand VII gold 8 Escudos 1808 Mo-TH AU58 NGC, Mexico City mint, KM160, Fr-47. On the very brink of Mint State, with fully intact luster and only the barest hint of rub at the high points. Wholesome and attractive, with an appealing autumnal tone throughout.
Estimate: \$1,500-\$2,000



30413 Maximilian gold 20 Pesos 1866-Mo UNC Details (Obverse Scratched) NGC, Mexico City mint, KM389, Fr-62. From a total mintage of only 8,274. A fleeting issue from the short-lived imperial reign of Maximilian I, struck only a year before his execution in 1867. Bearing a series of shallow scratches in the obverse fields surrounding the bust; nonetheless, quite attractive, with near-Prooflike reflectivity due to an early strike from recently polished dies.
Estimate: \$2,000-\$2,500



MONACO



30414 Charles III gold 100 Francs 1886-A MS61 NGC, Paris mint, KM99, Fr-11, Gad-MC122. A pleasing Mint State example of this issue, from a mintage of 15,000 pieces. Displaying bright, satiny luster, with the presence of some obverse hairlines accounting for the assigned grade. AGW 0.9334 oz.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$2,500



30415 Albert I gold 100 Francs 1896-A AU53 NGC, Paris mint, KM105, Gad-MC124, Fr-13. Minimally circulated, with bright luster and a faint orangish tone. AGW 0.9334 oz.

Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,400

MONTENEGRO



Elite Gem Nicholas I Proof 100 Perpera

30416 Nicholas I gold Proof “Bare Head” 100 Perpera 1910 PR65+ Ultra Cameo NGC, Vienna mint, KM12, Fr-1. Proof mintage: 25. Bare Head, Facing Right. A stunning gem example of this very rare Proof issue, with a total issuance of only 25 specimens, according to the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*. Given this incredibly low figure, it is perhaps of no surprise that this laudable gem ranks as the absolute finest seen across both NGC and PCGS, the next-finest grade in the combined censuses achieved by a single “PR65” specimen. A full cameo effect is noted owing to a heavy coating of golden frost over the raised features, resulting in a delightfully silky texture that is almost entirely undisturbed by any signs of handling. A turn of the wrist reveals a bright reflectivity residing in the fields, unleashing a sleek and nearly pristine flashiness that proves wholly uncommon for this already very elusive issue. This elite coin is bound to confer significant bragging rights to its future owner, and we do not doubt that it will be met with spirited bidding by collectors vying for the finest certified selection of this great 20th-century rarity.

Ex. Numismatica Genvensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 905)

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



NETHERLANDS

GRONINGEN



Extraordinarily Rare 10 Ducat of Groningen

30417 Groningen. City gold Ecu au St. Jean (10 Ducat) 1561 AU55 NGC, Fr-Unl., Delm-1154 (R4; citing this coin), cf. van der Chijs-XVII, 141 (for Daalder), Schellhass Collection-Unl., CNM-2.21.2, PW-Unl. 33.95gm. Struck from Daalder dies (cf. Dav-8878). SANCTVS ★ IOANNES | BAPTISTA ★ A° ★ 1561, John the Baptist, the Patron Saint of Groningen, standing facing with the index finger of his right hand pointing to the Lamb of God (Agnus dei), which is seated upon a book in his left arm / MONETA ★ NOVA ★ ARGENTEA ★ GRONINGENSIS, crowned double-headed eagle with coat of arms of Groningen upon chest. An extremely rare "Écu of St. John," noted in Delmonte as R4, indicating 2 or 3 known. While the equivalent daalder type was known to Pieter Otto van der Chijs, who described it in his *De Munten van Friesland, Groningen en Drenthe (der Heeren van Koevorden)* (1855) as the first Rijksdaalder of Groningen, and noted the presence of four or five specimens in collections located in The Hague, Groningen, and Utrecht, he made no reference whatsoever to a striking in gold; similarly, it was missing from the 1892 *Catalogus der Gouden, Zilveren en Koperen Specien* of the Utrecht Coin Cabinet's collection. Interestingly, in his records of the Daalder, van der Chijs records the weights of three such examples, all of which differ greatly from one another, perhaps corresponding to the fact that the issue very much represented an experimental type for the city, produced in response to its rising economic importance. For his part, Delmonte knew only of this piece, sold by Jacques Schulman in 1925, which was described as unique in that catalog. Additionally, a piece bearing the same design, but of 4 Ducats weight and struck from 1/2 Daalder dies, appeared in *Leu Numismatik Auction 80* (May 2001, lot 609). It would thus appear that the issue was struck in various sizes, and as such this specific size and weight may very well be one of a kind.

Ex. Jacques Schulman (November 1925, Lot 829)

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000

HOLLAND



The Finest Certified Example of Only Two to Come to Market in Nearly 20 Years

30418 Holland. Provincial gold Proof Off-Metal Gulden 1681 PR64 Cameo NGC, KM61a, Fr-Unl., Delm-801 (R1), CNM-2.28.98, PW-Ho58.4. 17.47gm. Struck to 5 Ducat weight. An incredibly captivating rendition of this most challenging and elusive off-metal striking in gold, reportedly minted in weights of 4, 4-1/2, and 5 Ducats. Produced to the highest standard, both the obverse and reverse alike carry the feel of a special medallic issue. The devices, sharply and deeply impressed, are overlaid in a contouring mint frost and set against pondlike reflectivity in the fields—all factors that set the offering on the very cusp of gem certification. Although very minor wisps likely account for the assigned grade, this is virtually a moot point, even more so when considering that this is the finest of only two to be graded across NGC and PCGS to date. According to our research, this is one of a mere 2 specimens to have appeared at auction in recent decades, with the last to sell, an SP63 from PCGS, bringing \$43,200 as part of our August 2020 Platinum Night sale 3085. For the sake of completeness, we note that an example was also present in Sotheby's 1903 sale of the Murdoch Collection (lot 1141). This selection could hardly be improved upon, and we can only anticipate the interest it will receive as it crosses the auction block for the first time in nearly 20 years.

Ex. Künker Auction 68 (October 2001, Lot 2306)

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



Extremely Rare Gold Off-Metal Pattern 3 Gulden

30419 Holland. Provincial gold Proof Pattern 3 Gulden 1681 PR60 Cameo NGC, KM-Pn14, Fr-Unl., Delm-795 (R2), CNM-2.28.96, PW-Ho56.5. 34.68gm. Struck to 10 Ducat weight. An immense rarity by all measures, apparently missing from auction records of the last 15 to 20 years; indeed, we have only been able to locate one other example of this off-metal strike, though that coin did not possess a mirrored finish, as seen on this offering, and it appeared to be in an inferior technical preservation. Reportedly, an example was present in Sotheby's sale of the Thomas Thomas Collection (lot 2242, also ex. Marmaduke Trattle, lot 1465), although the weight of that specimen is unclear, while the *Catalogus der Gouden, Zilveren en Koperen Specien van de Republiek der Vereenigde Nederlanden* reports no such coin in the holdings of the Royal Coin Cabinet in Utrecht. Admittedly bound in its designation by some mild chatter in the fields, this piece nonetheless emits waves of glass-like flash, its rims sharp and upturned, and not a trace of detail could be said to be missing from any part of the strike. An ideal design for this gold format, and an absolute rarity worthy of the closest attention.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Precisely Struck Gold Proof Pattern Ducaton

30420 Holland. Provincial gold Proof Pattern Ducaton (10 Ducat or Gold Rider) 1687 PR61 NGC, KM-Pn19, Fr-Unl., Delm-788 (R1), CNM-2.28.84, PW-Ho45.6. 34.49gm. A tremendous representative of this off-metal issue, noted as a “trial in gold” by Delmonte and similarly recognized as a Pattern by the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*. As specialists will be well aware, these issues were produced by the same dies used to strike the “regular” (and conditionally still very scarce) Ducatons of the same period (cf. KM51). Gold emissions are highly elusive, particularly in finer surviving states, and likely served as presentation pieces to important officials, thus indicating that their value and importance was well-recognized by owners in even contemporary times.

The exacting strike and bold details of this piece leave no doubt as to its special production. Razor-sharp throughout, the designs soar above the fields, clearly contoured at every point of inspection and lending a fitting vibrancy to the engaging motifs, featuring an armored knight on horseback charging into battle. The near-perfect centering of the strike has produced an even rim that serves as a visual frame for the central features, a bright display of golden light and a delightful red-gold tone held within its confines. Though some heavier handling is to be expected at this grade, disturbances to the surfaces are evenly distributed and minor, yielding a strong visual display that might normally be expected at higher levels of certification. Truly marvelous, and existing at a superb intersection between rich artistry and indisputable rarity, this offering appears fully destined for a high-end collection of 17th-century gold.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Fabulous Gold Presentation Issue

30421 Holland. Provincial gold Proof Ducaton (10 Ducat or Gold Rider) 1703 PR61 NGC, KM-P38 (listed as a Piefort), Fr-Unl., Delm-788 (R4), CNM-2.28.84, PW-Ho45.5. 34.45gm. A spectacular and exceptionally challenging Proof issue, struck in gold to the weight of 10 Ducats. Originally conceived in the Seven Provinces in 1659, the Ducatoon (Ducaton), also known as the Silver Rider, came to fruition during a century in which the Netherlands was at the peak of its power and influence around the globe. The Rider design, with its potent imagery, ornate detail, and conveyance of supreme force and energy, would become an enduring icon of Dutch coinage. While the silver issues of the type are highly collectible and command a significant premium when encountered in choice preservation, the off-metal gold presentation issues are of an entirely different class in terms of both rarity and desirability.

Interestingly, examples of the Rider denomination bearing the 1703 date are known only in gold, making the present piece not a true off-metal strike, but rather a separate issue of its own merit. The date is extremely rare, even relative to other gold issues in the series, and is listed in Delmonte as R4 (2 to 3 known). The Dutch Royal Coin cabinet in The Hague is known to have once held an example, from the collection of a Dr. van Oppenraay, but the present whereabouts of that piece are unknown to us, and it may or may not be the example seen here.

Struck from masterfully engraved dies, the present piece radiates with elegance and prestige. Featuring a bold, full strike, the expertly rendered devices sparkle with jewel-like golden brilliance, a lovely contrast to the smooth, watery gloss of the fields beneath. Scattered contact marks account for the assigned grade, but are of little consequence to the overall superb eye appeal, and blend well into the reflectivity induced by highly polished dies. A singular opportunity for the collector of Dutch rarities, and a piece sure to stand out in any collection.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000

UTRECHT



30422 Utrecht. Provincial gold Cavalier d'Or 1618 MS63 NGC, Utrecht mint, KM15, Fr-286, Delm-967. 9.92gm. Deluxe quality for this engaging early gold type, featuring shimmering mint brilliance and a solid, well-centered strike. Some die rust in the reverse fields should be mentioned for completeness.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 58 (January 2004, Lot 2674)

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000





A Magnificent Gold Medal Celebrating the Lifting of the Siege of Leiden in 1574

30423 “Lifting of the Siege of Leiden” gold Medal of 19 Ducats 1574-Dated MS62 NGC, Bizot-I-27, Borchmann-II-304 var. (in silver), Van Loon-I-193. 47mm. 65.97gm. By G. Van Bylaer. The embodiment of peak Dutch medal-engraving in the late 16th and 17th centuries. This offering, expertly preserved, together with generally minimal surface chatter, allows for a full appreciation of the intricate design work. The obverse features the Spanish retreating from the siege works around Leiden, while the reverse paints a biblical allegory with a scene of the Angel of Death destroying the Assyrians outside the walls of Jerusalem (the legend above reads: “as was Sennacherib before Jerusalem, 2 Kings 19”). Indeed, the Siege of Leiden has often been regarded as one of the key events of Eighty Years’ War and the Dutch Revolt against Spain. It is said that after William, Duke of Orange, cut the dykes surrounding the city and forced the Spanish to abandon their efforts, he delivered herring and bread to the starving citizens. In remembrance, the people of Leiden made a custom out of eating herring and bread every year on October 3rd, the anniversary of the lifting of the siege.

Although the existence of this type was first documented by Pierre Bizot in the 1688 edition of his *Histoire métallique de la république de Hollande*, knowledge of it in gold seems to have taken much longer to emerge. In the course of our research, we have been able to locate only one other example in this metal that sold in recent decades: a piece of approximately 12-1/2 Ducat-weight (43.7gm), which brought the equivalent of \$34,000 in a European sale in June 2008. As such, this offering can only be regarded as of the highest rarity, and will certainly come as a key target for any serious collector of the Dutch series.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



NEW ZEALAND





Extremely Rare “Waitangi” Pattern

30424 George V silver Pattern “Waitangi” Crown 1935 MS64 NGC, KM-Pn4, cf. Dav-433 (circulation issue). An exceedingly rare Pattern production of the 1935 “Waitangi” crown issued for the Silver Jubilee of George V’s reign and representing the Treaty of Waitangi signed in February of 1840 by representatives of the British Crown and Maori chiefs. Upon initial inspection, the design appears extremely similar to the ultimate circulation issue of the type, though closer examination, specifically to the reverse, reveals distinct differences that clearly separate this example from the later issuance. Significantly, the crown above the Maori chief and captain shaking hands is noticeably smaller. In the regular circulation series, the design is such that it overlaps both figures. Here it is small enough that this does not occur; rather, the crown “floats” between the two figures, with neither of their heads nor the chief’s staff touching this feature. Other lesser variances are noted as well. The chief’s skirt displays a straight-patterned design, unbroken by horizontal lines, while his hair shows significantly less texturing than is seen in the final design choice, and the small cross separating the word “CROWN” from the date (1935) is thinner in its design.

If the rarity of this highly coveted type, presented with the further acclaim of Pattern production, were not enough, the condition of the piece leaves little to be desired. Soft silvery luster veils the devices and open expanses alike, an undercurrent of sunset hues adding a strong character to the offering, which displays no marks of note and only the faintest signs of handling to establish the assigned, near-gem grade. This example, without a shadow of a doubt, represents one of the most important items in the entire New Zealand numismatic series, and whoever comes into possession of this singular selection will find himself the proud owner of a piece of history that remains out of the hands of virtually all other collectors.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



POLAND



Danzig "City View" 4 Ducat

30425 Danzig, Wladislaw IV gold 4 Ducat 1645-GR AU Details (Obverse Graffiti) NGC, Danzig mint, KM-Unl., Fr-20, HCz-1851 (R2), cf. Gum-1607 (RR; this date unlisted), Kaminski/Kurpiewski-253 (R3), Chelminski-642, Parchimowicz-D14, CNG-257, Dutkowski-266 (R5). 13.84gm. Gerhard Rogge as mintmaster. A Baroque masterpiece of Polish numismatics, this outstanding multiple Ducat "donative" issue represents the decision of the city council of Danzig to change the design of circulating coinage from the heraldic city arms to a detailed city panorama with several identifiable structures: the main town hall; the churches of St. Mary and St. John; the city gates and fortifications; and rays emerging from the sky above, symbolic of the divine protection over the city, which had managed to escape the Thirty Years' War unscathed. The designation of "Obverse Graffiti" on the present example would appear to refer to the minute engraved "III" that appears in the field to the right of the portrait, a notation of value that is almost certainly contemporary and should be considered relatively inconsequential. Overall the quality is superb, the surfaces revealing only the barest hints of circulation, with full, vibrant luster cascading through the fields. The strike is crisp and defined, the ornate lace collar delicately arranged over the armor beneath, the view of Danzig extraordinarily elegant, and over the whole of the piece is draped a wholesome and attractive harvest-gold tone.

Rarely encountered outside of larger, institutional collections (including the National Museum in Warsaw, the Czapski Family Collection in Krakow, the Ossolineum in Wroclow, the Archaeological and Ethnographical Museum in Lodz, and the Hermitage), we have been able to locate only one other example in this weight presented at auction in recent decades, the type altogether missing from both the Karolkiewicz Collection and Hess-Divo's Auction 288, Goldmünzen von Danzig. As such an undeniable target for Polish numismatists.

Ex. Künker Auction 87 (September 2003, Lot 2185)
Estimate: \$10,000-\$15,000



Ex. Chełmński 4-1/2 Ducat Struck for the Siege of Thorn - Possibly the Only Example in Private Hands

30426 Thorn. Sigismund III gold 4-1/2 Ducat 1629-Dated (1631)-HH/HLAU Details (Plugged) NGC, Thorn mint, KM-Unl., cf. Fr-56 (Very Rare; Struck from 1/2 Taler dies), cf. HCz-1592 (R3; slightly different design in lighter weight), Gum-1422a var. (RR), Chełmński-509 (this coin), Kop-1537c (R8), Dutowski-05 (R8; same dies, 4-1/2 Ducat), CNCT-1341 (R8; 4-1/2 Ducat, this coin cited). 16.60gm. By Heinrich Heme. Hans Lippe as mintmaster. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM9). Second Type. Arguably one of the most iconic—and certainly the most famous—types ever produced in the city of Thorn, its rarity uniformly recognized by Kopicki, Dutowski, and the *Corpus Nummorum Civitatis Thorunensis* as R8, suggesting as few as 2-3 known specimens. While designated on the holder as a 5 Ducat, the weight of this piece actually conforms more closely with the 4-1/2 Ducat cited by Dutowski and Suchanek's *Corpus*, the examples that they record (among which is this exact coin) grouped tightly around 16.5 to 16.6gm. Such a fact seems further supported by the issue's absence from Marek Kaleniecki's *Auction Records of Polish Gold Coins 1945-2002*, which contains sales information only for the surrounding 4 and 5 Ducats, fully suggesting that a representative in this standard has likely not come to auction in 100 years (the most recent auction result logged by the *Corpus*). Entirely missing from the Hutten-Czapski, Reichel, Frankiewicz, and Karolkiewicz collections, it is easy to see why this series has gained such renown amongst collectors. Its artistry is careful and handsomely executed, hardly surprising considering Lippe's employment under Johannes Jacob Jacobson at Bromberg, even admitting the noted mount removal and repair work, which was present on the offering at least as far back as 1904 in Helbing's catalog of the Chełmński Collection. With a single piece in the Ossolineum in Lodz, and the current whereabouts of the plate piece in the *Corpus* uncertain, the present selection may very well be the only example in private hands.

Commemorating the city of Thorn's survival of Field Marshal Hermann von Wrangel's siege during the Swedish-Polish War, the talers and multiple ducats of this series represent the first issues of the newly reopened municipal mint after 1630. Commissioned by an edict of the City Council as part of a plan to make the date of the lifting of the siege (February 16th) a civic holiday, the new coins were to be engraved by Heinrich Heme under the supervision of Hans Lippe, who had previously been employed as an assayer at the Bromberg mint under Johannes Jacob Jacobson, whose tenure had also seen the production of the famous 1621 100 Ducat of Sigismund III. Carrying the legend THORVNIA HOSTILITER OPPVGNATA ET A CIVIBVS FORTITER DEFENSA D. 16 FEBRUARII ANNO MDCXXIX (Thorn, besieged by the enemy, defended by its citizens with the help of the highest God, 16 February 1629), Dutowski and Suchanek suggest that perhaps more than 100 coins in gold and silver were originally produced in all denominations, intended for dispersion among members of the City Council, the mayors, and other notables, with the gold coins in particular intended for important (wealthy) citizens and important visitors, such as Prince Wladislaw Jagiello and King Sigismund III himself. The authors further distinguish 3 primary subtypes, marked by subtle design differences and features of the city, with this (second) type portraying a view of the city from the shore of the island Kepa Bazarowa.

Ex. Otto Helbing (November 1909, Lot 705); Sigismund von Chełmński Collection (Otto Helbing April 1904, Lot 509); Reportedly also part of Otto Helbing XIV, where it was lot 1146, though we have been unable to locate this catalog

Estimate: \$25,000-\$35,000



An Impressive Award Medal Presented Only Once Annually in Gold

30427 August III gold "White Eagle Award" Medal of 24 Ducats 1759 MS62 Prooflike NGC, Raczynski-403 (1750), HCz-7844 (R5; 1754), Bentkowski-579 (1761). 52mm. 83.34gm. By Wermuth. An award that presents an air of prestige, not least for its impressive reliefs rendered in an exquisitely detailed yet austere style. Produced in the impressive weight of 24 to 25 ducats, award medals such as this were only distributed once a year during a ceremony held on the King's name day (August 3rd), with the Order of the White Eagle itself being the highest Order in Poland from 1705 to the present day, bestowed upon only the most distinguished subjects and the highest-ranking representatives of foreign nations. While medals of the same design in silver were produced as prizes for the shooting competitions held during such festivities, it is with the gold pieces that we can truly begin to speak of extreme rarity. According to the most recent listing of an example, specimens from 1738, 1754, 1758, and 1759 have been recorded, along with a 1748 featuring a slightly different portrait of the King. What is more, the 1754 is unavailable to collectors, residing in the Hutten-Czapski Collection in Krakow.

All records suggest that this is the first time this award from 1759 has appeared at auction in at least the past 20 years. While mild abrasions do exist in the fields, in-line with both its designation and the natural weight of the piece (this feature is also present on the other examples we have consulted), the preservation can otherwise be regarded as admirable—the surfaces entirely alight with a Prooflike shimmer. Perhaps of even finer preservation than the handful of other representatives that have appeared at auction, making this a thoroughly unique opportunity by all counts.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



Imposing and Seemingly Unpublished Award Medal in Gold

30428 "Prize for Trigonometry & Mechanics" gold Medal of 30 Ducats ND (c. 1760-1762) MS62 NGC, cf. Raczyński-550 (different obverse portrait), cf. HCz-5387 (R4; listed only in base metal). 48mm. 104.22gm. A prize medal which truly impresses as much today as it must have when it was first awarded in the second half of the 18th century. Part of a series of awards first donated by Prince Józef Aleksander Jabłonowski for prizes in geometry, mechanics, physics, and Polish history in 1760 in weights of 10, 20, 30, and 40 ducats, respectively, they would become associated with the Societas Jablonoviana (Science Society of the Jabłonowski Family) which he established in Leipzig. A prominent Polish noble and savant—Raczyński records over 21 books and treatises that he penned—Jabłonowski sought to promote the work of German scholars within fields of study related to Poland, as well as the professions of history, physics, and mathematics. From 1773, the University of Leipzig had the right to bestow the award. Although originally envisioned for the four disciplines previously cited, a change in the statutes of the award, effected in 1762, limited its use to only three prizes for geography, physics, and Polish history, all of which were to be presented in medals of 30 Ducat-weight. This speaks to the present specimen, clearly awarded for mechanics and trigonometry, and thus stemming from a period before the changeover.

Entirely unknown to Hutten-Czapski in gold, this medal can only be regarded as stunning. Its reliefs alone are enough to give the viewer occasion to stop and pause, while its surfaces continue to remain radiant and free of any singularly distracting flaws. For the sake of accuracy, we note a small rim bump near 7 o'clock, though this has caused relatively little disturbance to the surrounding fields, and has in no way affected the legibility of the legends. To our knowledge, this is only such gold award medal from the period to have become available in recent memory, and may well be unique as such.

Ex. Künker Auction 68 (October 2001, Lot 2334)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



30429 Republic gold Pattern 5 Zlotych 1928-Dated UNC Details (Removed From Jewelry) NGC, KM-Pn316, Parchimowicz-P191c, Kienast-399. 36mm. 39.28gm. By Karl Goetz. An extremely rare and intriguing gold issue by Karl Goetz (1875-1950), a German medallist known for his stylistic and often controversial creations, featuring the famous painting of Our Lady of Czestochowa (Matka Boska Czestochowska), also known as the Black Madonna, housed in the Jasna Góra monastery. As with many Goetz issues, the present type was created more for novelty than for serious consideration as currency, and, though dated 1928, little is known about precisely when it was struck. Lightly polished.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000





PORTUGAL



A Near-Choice Relic from the Dawn of the Age of Discovery

30430 Manuel I (1495-1521) gold 10 Cruzados (Portugués) ND (c. 1498-1502) MS62 NGC, Lisbon mint, Fr-20 var. (end of legend), MEC VI-1090 var. (1499; same), Gomes-73.01 var. (same), JS-E1.1 var. (same), Trigueiros, “Inventário dos Portugueses de ouro do reinado de D. Manuel I, 1499-1521” (Revista Portuguesa de Numismática 31, no. 1, March 2014) Type PT 1.01.02, Subvariety EMA.02 (misdescribed as having a R in PORTVGALIE). 35.38gm. Variety with POTVGALIE spelling on obverse, and legend ending III: Λ: D: GVI. A coin whose name would echo down the ages and inform many of the most prestigious gold coins struck across the European continent for much of the next century—perhaps more familiar to modern numismatists from its derivative *Portugalöser*, a synonym for a piece of 10 Ducats weight. Lavishly struck with the utmost attention paid to the measuring of its details, down to each letter of its very long inscription, its quality is instantly stunning. Fine flow lines fill the recesses of the fields, while virtually choice luster and well-centered designs could hardly be more ideal. Likely the only imperfection left by the striking process is a die shift on the reverse, a slight disturbance in the obverse denticles around 12 o’clock noted for completeness, though in no way indicative of past mounting. This is only the second specimen from these dies we have been able to locate—a previous example certified AU53 by PCGS realized the equivalent of nearly \$60,000 in December 2016. Existing very much on the cusp of choice condition, and leagues above most other survivors, we have no doubt that this coin will garner plenty of attention from collectors.

*Few coins can be said to embody the dawn of the Age of Discovery more than the gold Português do ouro of King Manuel I. Struck from Guinean gold provided by the explorations of Vasco da Gama, the date of introduction for the new type has proven a source of debate. Damião de Gois, in his *Crônica de El-Rei D. Manuel of 1566*, suggested that they were first minted in 1499 for Pedro Alvares Cabral to take on his voyage to India in 1500 (which led to the “discovery” of Brazil), whereas Gaspar Correa, in his *Lendas da Índia*, refers to “portugueses” on several occasions given by Vasco da Gama during his first voyage to India. The coin’s legends themselves, however—a guarantor to the Português’ legitimacy and fineness—suggests a date closer to 1499, listing Manuel’s titles as King of Portugal and the Algarves, of the Lands before and beyond Africa, Lord of Guinea and the Conquest, Navigation and Commerce of Ethiopia, Arabia, Persia and India. In his own work, *Asia*, João de Barros explains that “He [Manuel] did not assume such a title lightly or by chance, but with much action, justice, and prudence; with the arrival of Vasco da Gama and, particularly, of Pedro Alvares Cabral, he took possession of everything they had discovered and what was granted and given to him through the Sovereign Pontiffs.”*

Barros’ sentiment, encapsulated further in his statement that Manuel and his predecessors “had the conquest of the infidel in mind,” rings all the more true with the motif of the cross of the Order of Christ circumscribed with the slogan In hoc signo Vinces, a reference to Eusebius of Caesarea’s famous account of the vision and conversion of the Roman Emperor Constantine, who saw a cross descend from the heavens along with a voice that beckoned “By this sign, thou shalt conquer.” The motto very much became the rallying call of Portugal’s territorial expansion, seen at the time as a furtherance of the Crusades intended to expel Muslim rule from the Holy Land.

Ex. Schweizerischer Bankverein Auction 37 (January 1995, Lot 2400)

Estimate: \$60,000-\$90,000



30431 João VI gold 6400 Reis (Peça) 1826 AU Details (Obverse Cleaned) NGC, Lisbon mint, KM378, Fr-134, Gomes-9.01. A scarcer date, from a mintage of only 10,883 pieces. Faint friction to the high points of the devices accounts for the About Uncirculated grade, but the overall appearance is that of a Mint State specimen, with fully intact, watery luster in the fields. Evidence of a prior cleaning is visible via wispy hairlines in the obverse fields, but they have been nicely toned over and are not especially distracting.

30432 Maria II gold 6400 Reis (Peça) 1835 MS65 NGC, Lisbon mint, KM407, Fr-141. From a reported mintage of only 2,989 pieces, this wonderful gem specimen offers a condition well beyond the pale for this sparse issue, surpassed in grade by only one example at NGC and featuring dazzling cartwheel luster. Scarcely seen so fine, and deserving of a premium bid.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$5,000

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 916)

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500

ROMANIA



30433 Carol I gold 50 Lei 1906-(b) MS62 NGC, Brussels mint, KM39, Fr-6, Stamb-66. Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of Carol's reign and produced to a total mintage of 28,000. Appealingly toned, deep honey-amber highlights enhancing the peripheral presentation of the obverse and reverse faces. Lustrous and Mint State, with a higher-end grade that places the offering in a tied position for second-finest certified to date across both major grading services.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 933)
Estimate: \$4,000-\$5,000



30434 Carol I gold 100 Lei 1906-(b) MS64 NGC, Brussels mint, KM40, Fr-4, Stamb-67. One of only 3,000 struck for this one-year type, produced to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Carol I's reign. This well-kept offering ties for the numerically finest example of the issue certified to date, an honor matched by a laudable aesthetic state that preserves a framing peripheral ring of warm amber tone, set against brightly shimmering surfaces that have been minimally impacted by handling. A true connoisseur's coin, and one undoubtedly destined for a high-end type collection.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 930)
Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



30435 Carol I gold 100 Lei 1906-(b) MS63 NGC, Brussels mint, KM40, Fr-4, Stamb-67. Mintage: 3,000. A one-year type struck to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Carol I's reign. Among the finest of this conditionally elusive issue that we have handled, this choice representative displays shimmering luster and light cupric tone, with only two MS64 examples, one of which is also included in this auction, certified finer.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 929)
Estimate: \$4,000-\$5,000



30436 Ferdinand I gold "Coronation" 25 Lei 1922 MS62 NGC, London mint, KM-XM2, Fr-12, Stamb-83. Produced to commemorate the coronation of Ferdinand I, and featuring the crowned busts of the new King and Queen Marie. A type struck on quite shallow dies, and with a tendency to bear significant evidence of handling over the surfaces. The present example, while displaying some of the hairlines and light scratches typical for the issue, does so with an appreciable evenness, with no particular marks standing out readily to the eye, while the sun-yellow fields are awash with gentle satiny luster.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 938)
Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000



30437 Ferdinand I gold 100 Lei 1922-Dated (1928/1929) MS63 NGC, London mint, KM-XM4, Fr-9, Stamb-85. Dated 1922, but struck posthumously in 1928 and 1929 following a 1927 decree to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the King's coronation. A rare and popular issue in any state of preservation, and exceptionally scarce in the present choice condition. Highlighted by fresh blooming luster, with surfaces admirably bereft of the signs of handling one might expect for even this prized assigned grade.

30438 Ferdinand I gold 100 Lei 1922-Dated (1928/1929) MS62+ NGC, London mint, KM-XM4, Fr-9, Stamb-85. A fleeting type bearing a date of 1922, though actually struck in 1928 and 1929 for the King's 5th coronation anniversary. Quite desirable in this state of preservation, and on the cusp of a choice designation, with just a few light marks in the obverse fields limiting the grade.

Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 937)
Estimate: \$6,000-\$8,000



A Pinnacle Romanian Rarity

30439 Carol II gold “Angel over Arms” 100 Lei 1939 MS62 NGC, Bucharest mint, KM-XM8, Fr-15, Stamb-102 var. (listed as medal alignment). Coin alignment. Reeded edge. A coin at the apex of Romanian numismatics, this extremely rare angelic type was struck to celebrate the centennial of the birth of Carol I. Though Pattern examples of this issue are sometimes available in gilt bronze, this is the first gold specimen we have offered, and it is the finer of only two examples graded across NGC and PCGS to date. The fields over both sides are enveloped in glossy luster, with shallow handling marks reflective of the grade assigned. An exceptional survivor boasting impressive eye appeal for the issue, and an ideal target for the condition-minded collector.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 939)

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Celebrated 20th-Century Romanian Gold Commemorative

30440 Carol II gold “Jubilee” 100 Lei 1940 MS61 NGC, Bucharest mint, KM-XM12, Fr-19, Stamb-111. Uncircled bust variety. Coin alignment. Reeded edge. A prized rarity within the field of 20th-century Romanian numismatics, struck in commemoration of the 10th year of Carol II’s reign. This grand homage to the monarchy features an elegantly stark obverse design that serves to highlight the bare portrait of the King, paired with an appealingly symmetrical reverse incorporating the royal cipher. With moderate, but not overly distracting handling that aligns with the assigned grade, and a generous coating of watery luster over the reverse fields.

Ex. Numismatica Genevensis Auction 2 (November 2002, Lot 941)

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



SCOTLAND



Fantastic Uncirculated James VI (I) 20 Pounds

30441 James VI (I) gold 20 Pounds 1576 UNC Details (Obverse Scratched) NGC, Edinburgh mint, Second coinage, Fr-37, S-5451, Burns-pg. 385, 1 (Fig. 947), SCBI XXXV-1141. 30.34gm. IACOBVS • 6 • DEI • GRA • REX • SCOTOR, crowned and armored half-length bust right, olive branch in left hand, sword over shoulder in right; in tablet below, two line legend reading IN • VTRVNQVE • | • PARATVS • / PARCERE SVBIECTIS • & DEBEL-LARE SVPERBOS, crowned coat-of-arms. A venerable type, produced among the earliest gold issues of James VI, and of such a weight that, according to Burns, they “[exceeded] that of any other Scottish gold coins, [and] they were formerly regarded as medals or Pattern pieces.” The type is incredibly rare, with a total of only 7 examples of this date thought to exist in private hands. Further, this offering is certainly among the very finest of these few examples.

Looking to those offered at auction in the last two decades, the Lawrence Adams-Mallinson specimen (2015) appears to be of approximately VF condition. The Clearwater-Douglas-V.J.E. Ryan example (2010, 2013) also shows wear, albeit to a lesser degree. The ex. Kroisos-Hird Collection example (2008) demonstrates significant wear, also approximately VF in preservation, with the last available example in recent records, the Bridgewater House Collection example (2006, also part of the LaRiviere Collection), appearing lightly circulated and with a noted scrape by the King’s bust. Extending our search further back, even the Dundee (ex. Marquess of Bute) specimen sold in 1976 showed clear rub and was only deemed “nice very fine.” If the proposed figure of seven examples in private hands is to be trusted, that would make the present offering the finest of at least 6 of these known. Indeed, its preservation leaves nothing to be desired. Gleaming golden luster resides in the fields amidst a subtle orange-gold tone. The King’s portrait is sharp, the fine details in his armor and collar fully struck-up and retaining the highest degree of clarity, an observation which similarly extends to the legends and reverse shield motif. The scratch, while technically fairly noted, is both shallow and unobtrusive, and here NGC arguably appears to have taken a harder stance than is often the case with such lesser marks, which act to lower the assigned grade rather than conferring a Details designation. Aside from this single feature, only light friction in the fields is noted, with no other significant signs of contact or distractions worthy of mention. Thus, it may be said that this offering represents the virtual peak of desirability, not just for the date, but for the type as a whole, rendering its inclusion in this prestigious collection as a singular opportunity for collectors who seek the finest of this quality for this highly elusive, artistically refined, and utmost historical issue.

A wondrous design, the reverse displays a crowned coat-of-arms occupying an amount of flan generally reserved for only the largest of silver crowns of the era, while the obverse features the youthful King of Scots (at the tender age of just nine) in full armor; holding in one hand an olive branch (emblematic of peace) and in the other a sword (emblematic of war). The legend in the cartouche below mirrors the imagery, translating as “prepared for either,” a message of both temperance and assertiveness mirrored by the reverse citation from the Aeneid, which translates as “To Spare the Humbled and Subdue the Proud,” a statement emblematic of the Humanistic learning that prospered at James’ court. Though a bold statement, in reality, the boy-king was fragile and vulnerable given his youth and inexperience. Even the bust, though clad in armor, can be seen as more defensive and protective rather than offensive and imposing, given his rather frail, thin frame. Nevertheless, his reign lived on, and he oversaw his realm into adulthood, whereupon he became Elizabeth I’s heir and eventual successor to the British throne. Later portraits and types convey a much sterner profile or strengthened iconography, making this large, early piece an excellent and rare glimpse into a time when his imperium over the Scots was legitimately in question.

Estimate: \$80,000-\$120,000



SPAIN



Images not to scale

An Exquisite Product from Segovia, One of the Most Advanced Mints of the 17th Century

30442 Philip IV 50 Reales (Cinquentin) 1626 (Aqueduct)-A AU53 NGC, Segovia mint, KM81.2 (Rare), Dav-LS567, Cal-1696 (prev. Cal-239), Cay-6584. 170.15gm. Andres de Pedrera as assayer. Variety with cross-on-globe atop crown. Few coins can be said to possess the instantly imposing status of the famed *cinquentin* or *cinquenta* 50 Reales pieces minted during the reigns of Philip III and IV of Spain. Standing undisputed as the largest silver coins ever produced by the monarchy, these unmistakable “gems” of the Spanish numismatic series purportedly represent an attempt to satisfy the needs of wealthy Sevillian merchants seeking to present very large quantities of silver (presumably originating from such sources as the famous mine at Potosi) all at once. Perhaps as few as a few hundred or so examples are known across all dates produced during the 17th century, with those that were issued likely serving more as presentation pieces for distinguished individuals than as specie readily exchangeable in circulation. For the present date, we know that Philip IV authorized a mintage of 300 coins for Gaspar de Guzmán y Pimentel, Count-Duke of Olivares, Marquis of Eliche, and later a favorite of the King himself, while other emissions, such as the 1620, were known to have been struck for Luis Jeronimo Fernandez de Cabrera y Bobadilla, Count of Chinchon and Pedro Messia, forbearer of the Marquises Dynasty. Today, perhaps as few as 25 examples of the 1626 have been confirmed, including those specimens permanently housed in public institutional collections.

Although comparatively one of the more “common” dates in the series, the current offering should in no way be regarded as easy to locate, particularly in this condition. Over the past several decades of auction results, we have been able to locate only 2 other examples: a damaged piece sold by Sedwick in November 2008 (Auction 4, Lot 843), and the Archer M. Huntington specimen we sold in January 2017 (Auction #3051, Lot 34447), which was certified XF45 by NGC and showed significant annealing flaws. Presently existing as the second finest representative of the date certified by NGC out of only 3 graded, this coin displays a wonderful clarity of detail. Evidence of rub, on the whole, remains light and even, a few stray grazes entirely in-line with the grade and hardly unusual for a piece of this size. What stands out even more, however, is a general lack of serious annealing flaws or overt die strain, a considerable feat in itself, as such coins would have required a state-of-the-art hydraulic press to mint—technology that, at the time, only really existed west of the Rhine in Segovia. By all measures, then, a selection of the utmost desirability.

Ex. Ponterio & Associates Auction 124 (January 2003)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Rare Mint State Segovia 8 Escudos Overdate

30443 Charles II gold 8 Escudos 1687/3-BR MS62 NGC, Segovia mint, KM197, Fr-219, Onza-145 (Rare), Cal-1001 (prev. Cal-37), Cay-7906. Beginning in the 16th century, the Segovia mint embarked on an industrial modernization of their traditional hammer-struck method of coining, importing novel minting technology from Hall in Austria in the form of rolling machines. The result is readily apparent in the superior quality of Segovian issues—their roundness and uniformity of strike stand out in stark contrast to the often cruder coinage of the other Spanish mints, (which retained inferior production standards even into the 18th century), allowing for a much greater complexity of design upon the coins themselves. The present specimen represents a pinnacle rarity in the Segovian series, as a lack of gold resources in this period resulted in an intrinsic rarity for this emission. The appeal of this example is further bolstered by fully intact strike detail over surfaces permeated by an antique harvest-gold tone. As our most recent (and only other) sale of this date, an NGC AU58 example in our January 2019 NYINC Auction (Lot 34359), realized \$43,200, we expect the present Mint State offering may easily set a new record for the type.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



Grand Alliance Victory Medal - An Artifact of the War of Spanish Succession

30444 Karl VI of Austria (as Charles III of Spain) gold “Victories in Battle” Medal 1706-Dated MS63 Prooflike NGC, Montenuovo-1342 var. (in silver), Horsky-Unl., Julius-1166 var. (same), Van Loon-V-31 var. (same), MI-II-291/101 var. (same). 44mm. 52.11gm. By Martin Smeltzing. A fascinating and highly historical medal produced to commemorate the victories of the Grand Alliance during the War of the Spanish Succession, which pitted the Holy Roman Empire, Great Britain, the Dutch Republic, and their other allies against the forces of Spain and France. Vibrant with metaphorical imagery, the obverse depicts a clouded sun surrounded by the Latin phrase “SIC OBSCURATUR GLORIA MAGNI REGIS,” a reference to the dwindling power of the “Sun King” Louis XIV in the face of the Grand Alliance’s successes. The reverse commemorates several important events of the year, including the liberation of Barcelona, the entry into Madrid, and the Battle of Ramillies, with Charles’ bust prominently placed in the center, surrounded by his proclaimed title, Charles III. Despite this claim, Charles, though he would reign as Holy Roman Emperor Charles the Sixth from 1711 to 1740, was never to be recognized as King of Spain, with the ultimate peace settlement confirming Philip V as the Bourbon ruler of Spain.

Silver strikes of the issue are quite scarce and earn a substantial premium when located in better states of preservation. Gold productions, however, are downright rare. This offering represents the sole example of its kind seen in recent auction records. Further, it offers an appeal that few survivors could possibly match. Its sharp designs rise in distinguished relief above the plains of gold below, graced with a sufficient golden frost to create a clear juxtaposition against the fields, which themselves remain positively mirrorlike. This hard gold reflectivity reveals no impactful signs of circulation, with only mild traces of friction serving to contain the assigned grade at a notably impressive choice designation. A true historical relic, and one which could not be imagined more desirable, given its praiseworthy preservation and splendid golden format.

Estimate: \$15,000-\$20,000



Estimate: \$9,000-\$12,000



Estimate: \$8,000-\$10,000



SPANISH NETHERLANDS



Piefort Daalder of the Spanish Netherlands

30447 Brabant. Philip II of Spain silver Piefort Daalder ND (c. 1586) MS60 NGC, Antwerp mint, Dav-Unl., Delm-88 (R3), Vanhoudt-368P2 (R2), Witte-832. 65.23gm. Crowned and cuirassed bust of the King right / Crowned arms with the Portuguese shield, encircled by the collar of the Golden Fleece. A wholly attractive specimen of this very desirable “Heavy Weight” Daalder type, rare in any quality but especially so in the present Mint State, and permeated with an appealing deep antique patina. The issue may be accurately dated to after 1586, as the capture of Antwerp in that year after a lengthy siege marked the complete reestablishment of Spanish authority in the southern Netherlands. Following this transfer of power, Alexander Farnese, the Governor of the Spanish Netherlands, immediately ordered the issuance in Antwerp of coinage of Philip II of Spain. While admittedly a bit unevenly struck towards the outer registers, the piece at hand shows a distinctive lack of the annealing flaws so common on Dutch coins of the period, clearly indicating the level of care taken in the preparation, not only of the designs, but also of the extra thick planchet itself. What lends even more credence to the coin’s incredible survivorship, however, is the fact that the Millennia specimen graded only an AU55, with perhaps the nearest comparable example we have been able to locate bringing 20,000 Euros in June 2016.

Estimate: \$8,000-\$12,000

SWEDEN



The First Appearance of this Rare Type on Auction in Decades

30448 Johan III (1568-1592) 4 Riksdaler ND (1587) XF45 NGC, Stockholm mint, Dav-LS570, AAH-17 (R), Hagander-Unl., Hagander Collection-Unl. 114.11gm. Gillis (Julius) Coyet the Elder as mintmaster. A coin as impressive for its size as it is for its rarity, struck from specially prepared dies of the same design as the Double Riksdaler and Double Rose Noble, though in distinctively broader dimensions. Apart from some rub that appears over the King's face and beard, a naturally higher portion of the design, the devices retain full execution and marvelous clarity. Both sides of the coin are overlaid with an antique graphite patina, intensifying to charcoal hues towards the obverse margins and forming silhouettes around the reverse features. Notably missing from the incredible numismatic cabinet formed by Julius Hagander, as well as from the holdings of Brand and John Story Jenks, we have not been able to locate a single specimen becoming available in recent memory.

Writing on the Double Rose Nobles of the same series, Delzanno has remarked that Johan III's Double Riksdalers were most likely produced to be used as bribes for the Polish Parliament to secure his son, Sigismund's (the future Sigismund III Vasa), accession to the vacant Polish-Lithuanian throne. Poland had indeed long played a major role in Johan's foreign policy, owing largely to the bloodline of his first wife, Catherine Jagellonica, who hailed from the famed Jagiellonian ruling house of Poland-Lithuania. That such coins would certainly have made an immense impression on any contemporary could hardly be disputed—the 4 Daler in particular, was significantly larger than any other silver coin that had been previously issued in Sweden, and completely dwarfed the notoriously small billon issues that circulated in contemporary Poland. Though they would cause disastrous inflation domestically, the power of such pieces to convey an air of value and authority certainly was not lost on contemporaries, and it is no coincidence that the reign of Sigismund III saw the production of some of the largest coins ever minted in Poland.

Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000



Perhaps Only the Fourth and Finest Known Example of this Coveted Gold Issue

30449 Johan III (1568-1592) gold Double Rose Noble (5 Ducat or 1/2 Portugalöser) ND (1585-1586) MS61 NGC, Stockholm mint, Fr-4 (Rare), AAH-4 (R), Hagander-23 = Hagander Collection-5006, SGM-5 (XR; 3 examples studied), 15.15gm. Gillis (Julius) Coyet the Elder as mintmaster. Struck from Daler dies (cf. Dav-8708). A coin whose historical interest is evident even at a glance. Collectors of hammered Swedish gold are well aware of the difficulty in encountering specimens at all, and most of those seen show clear mount removals and use in jewelry. Thus, finding a representative in Mint State is a considerable feat in-and-of-itself. Indeed, the luster that permeates this offering contains a Prooflike quality, and this alone seems to elevate the coin above its assigned grade, which is most likely bound by a few stray signs of contact. As of the time of publishing his recent book, *Sveriges Guldmynt*, Robert Delzanno recorded only three specimens, none of which appear to be the present coin:

- 1) **The Bonde Collection specimen.** Ulf Nordlind Mynthandel Auction 3 (2008, Lot 145) = SGM-5 Plate Coin
- 2) **The Hagander Collection specimen.** Künker Auction 196 (September 2011, Lot 5006); Purchased by Julius Hagander in 1986 from Claes-Olof Algård, Vancouver; Virgil Brand Collection, Part 1 (Sotheby's July 1982, Lot 287); Lars Emil Bruun Collection, Part 1 (Adolph Hess Auction 151, May 1914, Lot 505) = Fr-4 Plate Coin
- 3) **Künker Auction 251** (July 2014, Lot 3158); Bjarne Ahlström Auction 58 (1998, Lot 219) = AAH-4 Plate Coin

Of these three, perhaps the Hagander example is closest in quality to this piece, though even that coin had a subtle mount removal; the Bonde specimen, by comparison, had a dramatic mount removal at 12 o'clock along with a slight bend in the flan, and the Künker 251 specimen suffered from severe wrinkling to the flan and had a small graffiti X in the right obverse field. As such, this is a truly singular selection, and very likely the finest known.

A lover of aesthetic beauty, Johan III did not have much of a mind for financial or economic manners. His desire to "not be bothered by financial restraints" resulted in some of the most beautiful coins in Swedish history, even while at the time they resulted in atrocious inflation. This particular issue was the product of the King's desire to acquire "good Hungarian gold" in the summer of 1585, and such pieces as these were likely all given directly to the King soon after minting, while the contemporary 2 Dalers from similar dies are believed to have been used as bribes for the Polish Parliament.

Ex. Guia Collection (Bowers & Merena March 1988, Lot 491)
Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



An Extraordinary Commemorative for the Centenary of the Uppsala Synod of 1593

30450 Carl XI gold “Uppsala Synod Centenary” Medal of 50 Ducats 1693-Dated MS60 NGC, Hildebrand-I, pg. 445, 119, Whiting-143 var. (RR; in silver, smaller size), SGM-Unl. 63mm. 173.38gm. By Arvid Karlsteen. A charming allegorical medal, produced upon the centenary of the Uppsala Synod of 1593, by which Duke Carl of Sweden (the future Carl IX) established the kingdom’s formal confession of its Lutheran faith. Illustrating a ship sailing on stormy seas, the imagery is evocative of Sweden’s complicated history with the Roman Catholic Church, from which it had broken away in the 1520s amidst the Protestant Reformation, though it took over 70 years for the monarchy to formally proclaim its adherence to Lutheranism. According to an article written by Wilhelm Ernst Tentzel in the April 1694 *Monatliche Unterredungen einiger guter Freunde von allerhand Büchern*, etc., King Carl XII had such medals produced for bestowal upon the Universities of Leipzig and Wittenberg, cities that had played such an influential role in Electoral-Saxony from the earliest days of Martin Luther’s preaching. The first such reference to the type in gold we have been able to locate occurred in Lochner’s 1743 catalog *Samlung merkwürdiger Medaillen*, which was itself citing the “Puffendorfsche continuation” (see pg. 122).

Although also noted by Hildebrand to exist in gold, auction records of the last 20 years reveal only silver examples of this medallic type. While admitting scattered die rust on the reverse, little other evidence suggests that this piece was produced much later than the date it carries, and indeed we can locate these same features on the remaining silver specimens that have sold over the last decade. On the whole, the execution can only be regarded as admirable, its reliefs producing little die strain, while the features are absent any weakness.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$40,000



An Extravagant Gold Medal Produced During the Great Northern War

30451 Carl XII gold "Siege of Tönning & Bombardment of Copenhagen" Medal of 20 Ducats 1700-Dated MS62 NGC, Hildebrand-I, pg. 496, 32, Hede Collection-562 var. (in silver), MI-II-208/527 (Very Rare), Lange-Unl., SGM-Unl. 52mm. 69.20gm. An immensely gratifying historical medal by all accounts, produced for the Swedish bombardment of Copenhagen in retaliation for the Danish invasion of Holstein and Siege of Tönning. Reportedly arising from a misunderstanding between the Danes and the Duke of Holstein, in early 1700, the Danes invaded the territories of Holstein-Gottorp, destroyed its fortifications, and, beginning in March, laid siege to the city of Tönning. Seeking the assistance of the Allies, the Duke received aid from the armies of Sweden and Lüneburg, while the fleets of Holland, England, and Sweden threatened Denmark. Although the Dutch and English are believed to have been bystanders in the ensuing retaliation, the Swedes proceeded to bombard the Danish capital, captured on this medal through the legend *Par Pari* ("like for like") above the scene of the Swedish attack. This dramatic move brought the Danes to the negotiating table, leading to the Peace of Travendal on 18 August 1700, which forced Denmark-Norway out of the Great Northern War until 1709.

Brilliantly rendered in gold, this offering illustrates the scenes of both cityscapes in painstaking fashion, expressing canons, soldiers, and ships alongside soaring spires and skylines. All evidence suggests only mild handling, with the recesses of the design containing ample die polish. Although we have not been able to locate any examples of this medal in gold in auction records, we would note that Hawkins, in his *Medallic Illustrations of the History of Great Britain and Ireland*, only cited a single gold example residing in the collection of the Bank of Stockholm.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000

SWITZERLAND

BASEL



Superb and Prooflike Basel 10 Ducat

30452 Basel. City gold 10 Ducat ND (after 1700) MS63 Proof-like NGC, Fr-72a, HMZ-Unl., cf. Divo-742 (for reverse design), Haller-II-1296, cf. Ewig-722 (there, in 6 Ducat weight), Wunderly-Unl. 34.26gm. A rare medallic issue depicting L. Munatius Plancus, a Roman senator and consul who proposed the title of "Augustus" (revered one) be granted to Octavian. As the founder of Augusta Raurica, the oldest known Roman colony on the Rhine, located in the vicinity of Basel, he is often considered the founder of that city, and thus is celebrated to the obverse of this issue. Fully struck, with great detail visible across Plancus's armor and ornate texturing expressed within the reverse basilisk motif, the legends similarly sharp and serving as a pleasing peripheral border to the central designs. Scintillating luster careens over the fields, which display a pleasing sun-gold hue and significant reflectivity to earn the specimen a "Proof-like" designation. A great rarity, and the only example certified by NGC to date.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 297 (October 2003, Lot 177); Adolph Hess Auction 245 (1976, Lot 388)

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



Perhaps Only the Second Known Gold 12 Ducat-Weight "Glückhennentaler"

30453 Basel. City gold Medallion "Clucking Hen (Glückhenne)" 12 Ducat ND (c. 17th Century) MS61 NGC, KM-Unl., Fr-79 var. (weight), HMZ-Unl., Divo-Unl., cf. SM-1169 (same dies, though struck in silver), Wunderly-2182 (same), Fatio Collection-1252. 43mm. 40.90gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. SM-1169). Unsigned (possibly by Stefan Heinrich). A fanciful representative of this popular "ethical" medallion type, coupling the renowned imagery of the famous Germanic "City View" with the image of a mother hen guarding her chicks. Supposedly an allegory to the struggles between the administrators of the city and its citizens, these illustrations were meant to evoke the notion that the Grand Council saw to the protection of its "dear children," with the Latin legend translating to "She nourishes and protects." While the earliest issues in this series carried the initials of Friedrich Fecher, subsequent pieces, such as this, omitted the artist's initials. Although past auction listings have ascribed talers and lesser-weight multiple ducats from these dies to Stefan Heinrich (Hendrick), the last issue to bear his initials (SM-1168) shows a superior attention to detail and overall style as compared to the artistry seen here. Still, on aesthetic grounds, the current representative hardly admits grounds for complaint, it surfaces glassy with trace amounts of die polish visible around the basilisk-flanked arms of the city.

Though the rarity of the type in this weight goes without saying, a survey of past major Swiss collections drives the point home with a remarkable poignancy: not Wilmersdörffer, Hauser-Späth, Hirzel, Wunderly, Bachofen, Iklé, Stroehlin, von Schluthess-Rechberg, the South Kensington Museum, Hess-Leu's 1964 Auction 25 *Schweizer Goldmünzen*, nor Leu's renowned sale *Schweizer Medallien aus Altem Privatbesitz* of 1989 contain an example. Indeed, the sole representative we have been able to find (listed as an 11-1/2 Ducat, though of very similar weight to this piece), was lot 1252 in Leo Hamburger's October 1931 sale of the Henry Fatio Collection (Auction Catalog 93). In more recent times, the nearest example we have been able to locate is a 10 Ducat, which reportedly brought 150,000 CHF in October 2020.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 80 (May 2001, Lot 264)

Estimate: \$80,000-\$120,000

BERN



Rare and Unlisted Bern 6 Ducat

30454 Bern. City gold 6 Ducat ND (c. 1750) MS63+ Prooflike NGC, cf. KM111.1 (there, as 5 Ducat), cf. Fr-156 (same), HMZ-2-207b, cf. Divo-469a (same), Haller-II-951, Wunderly-1054. 20.71gm. A very rare type that appears unlisted in most major references consulted. Though the holder insert refers to Fr-151, this is actually the “with supporters” type, and the supporter-less wreath and shield design appears only in a 5 Ducat weight in that reference. This also holds true for both the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and Divo, the latter of which notes that the lower-weight 5 Ducat is very rare. This unlisted issue, then, is likely even scarcer. As the design of the type is commonly dated to either “18th century” or ND (1750) it seems more probable that the type was produced in the mid-1700s, as opposed to the date range of 1700-1710 listed on the insert. Utterly sharp design motifs establish a stellar degree of visual appeal, with well-defined, raised rims bordering the edges, and a delightful intense golden luster carrying Prooflike reflectivity that further enhances the presentation. A true collector’s coin, and certainly one for which another chance at ownership seems highly unlikely.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 88 (October 2003, Lot 1963)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Prooflike Mint State 8 Ducat

30455 Bern. City gold 8 Ducat 1796 MS62 Prooflike NGC, KM157, Fr-174, HMZ-2-205e, Divo-465a, Wunderly-Unl. 27.63gm. Of inspiring quality for this rare and desirable type, with an abundance of Prooflike reflectivity flooding the fields in a luminous embrace of the devices. Throughout, the designs are expressed to near-medallic precision, with the shield sharply outlined and surrounded by equally crisp legends and an ornate border, these acting in concert to frame the central motifs. Sun-gold luster illuminates the surfaces at every angle, which, together with a minimum of discernible handling for the grade, renders this mirrorlike near-choice candidate a compelling one for any high-end type collection of Swiss or world gold.

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000

Rare Bernese 8 Ducat Pedigreed to 1911

30456 Bern. City gold 8 Ducat 1798 MS62 Prooflike NGC, KM157, Fr-174, HMZ-2-205f, Divo-465b (Very Rare), Wunderly-Unl. 27.60gm. A stellar Prooflike representative of this covetable and low-mintage issue. While we do not know the exact production figure with any certainty, it is quite clear that the number was extremely low, and only a small handful appears to have come to auction in the last 20 years. Considering this fact, one could hardly ask for a much improved visual appeal beyond that displayed by the present example, which portrays a striking combination of needle-sharp detail and brilliant mirrored fields that carry sweeping aurous luster. Indeed, the overall presentation is essentially medallic in hand, only further bolstered by soft touches of honey-brown tone, visible primarily to the highly reflective reverse. Fine marks limit the assigned grade, including a patch below *RESPUBLICA* on the obverse, yet otherwise only a sea of flash and astounding brilliance define the appeal of this sublime offering, the first of its kind that we have had the honor of presenting at auction.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 88 (October 2003, Lot 2073); Nordmann Collection (Adolph Hess-Bank Leu Auction 25, 1964, Lot 139); Adolf Iklé Collection (Leo Hamburger Auction 23, May 1911, Lot 235)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



The Sole “City View” of the City of Bern

30457 Bern. City gold 10 Ducat ND (1680-1720) UNC Details (Mount Removed) NGC, KM54 (Rare), Fr-140 (Very Rare; this coin), HMZ-2-203d, Divo-Unl., Haller-Unl. 34.62gm. Obverse by Hans Jacob Burckhard, reverse by David Dick. A tremendous offering in gold, and a rare type that may well represent a singular opportunity for our interested bidders. Collectors of the Swiss series will be well-familiar with the city-view designs hailing from cantons such as Zurich and Basel. However, the motif is one that is entirely absent from the coinage of Bern in the same period, except for this very issue, rendering it not only of tremendous importance, but also as wholly unique within the larger series.

The gorgeous cityscape displays a commendable style of engraving and an attention to detail that are wholly outside the “normal” bounds for coins bearing similar imagery. No less than 25 individual spires and towers are easily identifiable throughout the expansive design, which carries such intricacy as to leave individual windows and rooftops equally discernible, the Aare River in the foreground showing a swift current juxtaposed with the idyllic rolling country to create an impression of a vibrant and thriving city closely connected to the world beyond by both land and sea.

For all that the designs have to offer in their vivid construction and composition, the condition of this specimen is no less impressive. Vibrant luster careens across the fields upon rotation, creating a nearly Prooflike expression of light. Close inspection reveals only trivial signs of a central mount, skillfully removed and leaving predominantly amber tone to the innermost region, where traces of the mount itself very nearly require magnification to become visible. A few light scratches are noted to the fields, though appear both relatively gentle and wholly forgivable in light of the offering’s exceptional rarity. Sweeping, bold, and likely without equal, this heavy golden emission is certain to serve as a treasured numismatic relic for many years to come.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 88 (October 2003, Lot 1923); Adolf Iklé Collection (Leo Hamburger Auction 23, May 1911, Lot 227)

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Exceptionally Rare and Prooflike 10 Ducat

30458 Bern. City gold 10 Ducat ND (1700-1710) MS63 Prooflike NGC, KM81, Fr-147, HMZ-2-203a, Divo-463a (Extremely Rare), Wunderly-Unl. 34.48gm. A visually sublime representative of this indisputably rare issue. A full strike yields vibrant detail to the smallest elements of texturing, including the finest hair details within the bear and lion supporters, the reverse equally sharp and showing not a hint of weakness throughout. The fields serve as consistent pondlike mirrors across which luster rolls brightly and unimpeded, positively washing over the surfaces and embellishing the raised design motifs. It is easy to see how this offering has earned its choice designation; not a single meaningful instance of contact is discernible throughout, and even the expected hairline marks are absolutely trivial, rendered inconsequential by an intense luminosity that very nearly erases any handling. A fine die crack extends from the top toward the bottom of MONETA, adding a unique identifying mark to this coin that will assist in future pedigree identification.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 88 (October 2003, Lot 1949); Leu Numismatik Auction 74 (October 1998, Lot 2135); Nordmann Collection (Adolph Hess-Bank Leu Auction 25, 1964, Lot 136); Hauser-Späth Collection (Galerie Fischer-Adolph Hess September 1943, Lot 174)

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



Sublime and Prooflike Bern 10 Ducat

30459 Bern. City gold 10 Ducat ND (c. 1772) MS63 Prooflike NGC, KM134, Fr-142, HMZ-2-203b, Divo-464b, Wunderly-Unl. 34.64gm. Astoundingly brilliant for this rare type, the offering on display ranks not only as the technically finest certified example of the issue, but also as the only one to receive a Prooflike designation by NGC. Even a cursory glance immediately reveals that this is no ordinary coin. Its expansive size, itself a significant hint as to its rarity in light of its age, serves as a profound canvas for designs that are both exquisitely detailed and struck to such a degree of sharpness that not a hint of detail is lacking. This expert crafting is perhaps most visible in the wreath that embraces the shield motif, as well as in the finer reverse peripheral details, which exhibit the highest caliber of stippled texturing. Rotation under light ignites the fields in a sun-like vibrant depth, these demonstrating clear reflectivity to several inches and serving as a beautiful backdrop to the well-chiseled details rising above. Fine die polish lines in the fields confirm what is already so apparent at face, namely that this selection displays nothing but the purest Mint State quality.

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



CHUR



Virtually Mint State Chur 7 Ducat

30460 Chur. Johann V Flugi von Aspermont gold 7 Ducat 1615 AU58 NGC, KM56, Fr-194, HMZ-2-400c, Divo-1412, Haller-II-2149, Hirzel-Unl., Wunderly-Unl. 34.47gm. A type that embodies the most charming motifs of Chur's coinage, showing the half-length figure of St. Luke grasping an orb and scepter, very much in period style, with the crowned double-headed Habsburg imperial eagle on the reverse. Though admitting some slight waviness, closer study confirms an excellent strike, distinctive luster that plays over the finer details of the designs, and rub that remains rather insignificant. All of these features clearly propel this offering to its virtually Mint State status. While missing from Tobler-Meyer's 1896-1898 catalogs of the Wunderly Collection, the date appeared as part of Leo Hamburger's April 1914 Raritäten-Cabinet VII sale of his collection (where it was lot 225, purchased by Brand and sold in Part 2 of his collection by Sotheby's in November 1982 as lot 401), making it one of a total of four of which we are aware, including a piece sold by Sincona in October 2015 (Auction 25, Lot 2075), and the example recorded by Haller (reportedly ex. Harscher Collection), with even Stroehlin lacking a specimen, and the South Kensington Museum containing only an example dated 1613. Presently the sole certified representative, and a fitting addition to a high-end cabinet of Swiss coinage.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 89 (October 2003, Lot 397); Leu Numismatik Auction 82 (October 2001, Lot 650)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000

GENEVA



30461 Geneva. Canton 12 Florins 9 Sols (Taler) L'An IV (1795)-TB MS64 NGC, KM111, Dav-1769, Divo-1032, HMZ-2-339h. Blessed with a rich battleship-gray patina laid upon surfaces that resound with argent luster and very nearly Prooflike reflectivity. Visually sublime and compelling, even for the assigned near-gem grade.

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,500

GLARUS



30462 Glarus. Canton "Shooting Festival" 40 Batzen 1847 MS63 Prooflike NGC, Munich mint, KM20, Hüb-3, HMZ-2-1341. Mintage: 3,200. Aesthetically delightful, with razor-sharp devices coated in icy mint frost and intensely shimmering fields bearing significant and potent reflectivity. Though finer examples exist, this issue is seldom seen with such visual intensity and appeal.

Estimate: \$1,500-\$2,000



GRAUBÜNDEN



Unique 10 Zecchini of Antonio Teodoro of Retegno, Struck from Filippo Dies

30463 Graubünden - Misox (Mesocco). Antonio Teodoro Trivulzio gold 10 Ducat (10 Zecchini) 1676 AU58 NGC, KM-Unl. (cf. KM19 for issue of 1677 [under Retegno]), Fr-985a (Very Rare; this coin [under Retegno]), CNI IVb-Unl., MIR-Unl., Bellesia-Unl., Gneccchi Collection-Unl., HMZ-Unl., Hirzel-Unl., Wunderly-3252 (R; this coin). 34.51gm. Struck from Filippo Stretto dies (cf. KM14, Dav-4137). An absolute masterpiece of Baroque engraving and certainly one of the most fantastic issues from Antonio Teodoro's short reign, all emissions of which are considered rare. One of only two dates that the Baron struck coins before his death and the extinction of the Trivulzio family line in 1678. By all indications this year is unique, representing an off-metal strike from Filippo dies rather than the special dies employed for striking the 1677, of which we are aware of at least 5 examples (Künker Auction 244 [February 2014, Lot 468] = Fr-986; Stack's International Sale, March 1988, Lot 1338 = KM19; Leu Numismatik 84, October 2002, Lot 1547, also ex. Brand [lot 218] = Bellesia-1; CNI-IVb.50 [Plate XLII, 19] = MIR-893; Bachofen Collection, Part IV, Leo Hamburger January 1921, Lot 2146 = Gneccchi Collection, L. & L. Hamburger January 1903, Lot 4229).

Portraying a shield containing a three-faced being instead of the family arms, the fact that this coin has been executed with such clarity and precision speaks to the quality both of the dies which were used to produce it and the care in preparing a comparatively sound and "regular" planchet for what could only have been a special-purpose piece. While some mild unevenness in the flan is indeed present, the attention to detail is simply stunning, die polish filling the margins alongside a full engraver's guide as luster abounds across the surfaces. Absolutely an ideal target for Italian, Swiss, and European gold collectors in general, graced with an impeccable provenance that clearly indicates that it is likely to disappear from the market for untold years to come after the hammer falls.

Cardinal Teodoro Trivulzio, a member of one of the oldest and most respected families in northern Italy, was granted the town of Retegno by Emperor Ferdinand III, along with the right to mint, in 1564. Antagonists of the famous Sforza line of Milan, the Trivulzios had held extensive tracts of land in Europe since the 11th century, including fiefs in Melzo, Vigevano, Borgomanero, and Cologno. The last of his family line, Antonio Teodoro reigned briefly from 1676 until 1678, when he was succeeded by his maternal cousin Antonio Teodoro Gaetano, who was obliged to take the name Gallio after his recognition by the Emperor.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 84 (October 2002, Lot 1530); Hans Wunderly Collection (Leo Hamburger Raritäten-Cabinet VII, April 1914, Lot 355); Hugo Freiherrn von Donop Collection (Leo Liepmannsohn June 1896, Lot 2160)

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



An Exquisitely Rare 10 Zecchini of Mesocco-Retegno - One of Just 5 We Have Been Able to Trace

30464 Graubünden - Misox (Mesocco). Antonio Teodoro Trivulzio gold 10 Ducat (10 Zecchini) 1677 MS61 NGC, KM19 (under Retegno), Fr-986 (same), CNI-IVb.50, MIR-893 (R5), Bellesia-1 (R4; this coin), Gneccchi Collection-4229, HMZ-Unl., Hirzel-Unl., Wunderly-Unl. 34.60gm. A spectacular rarity of this Swiss-Italian series, minted from a “unique” pair of dies specially prepared for this exquisite gold striking (compare to the previous lot in this sale). Carrying the intricate crest of the Trivulzio family on the reverse—containing a sphinx over an ornate helmet and shield—the type shows all evidence of careful preparation. A dual engraver’s guide frames Antonio’s regal portrait and keeps it separated from the surrounding legends, luster pervading throughout the surfaces while weakness is virtually undetectable anywhere throughout the design. Although some mild doubling does exist in the margins, this does nothing to impinge on the legibility of the inscription. Our research has revealed only 5 specimens of this glorious type, a mere 2 of which (including this coin) have appeared at auction since the early 2000s. Most intriguingly, while the Hans Wunderly Collection contained a unique example of the same denomination from 1676, an emission of this date was missing from his holdings. A clear target for the enthusiast of European gold coinage, with the last example of the type bringing the equivalent of \$150,000 in February 2014. Though NGC designates this coin under Italy, we feel that placing it under Mesocco (and Switzerland) is more appropriate, the coin’s reverse legend specifically citing Trivulzio as “Count of Mesocco” (Comes Musochi).

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 84 (October 2002, Lot 1547); Virgil Brand Collection, Part 1 (Sotheby’s July 1982, Lot 218)
Estimate: \$80,000-\$100,000



30465 Graubünden. Canton “Shooting Festival” 4 Franken 1842 MS62 Prooflike NGC, KM17, Dav-372, Richter-836a. Marked by glasslike luster that sparkles intensely upon rotation, with touches of soft, lilac-gray tone that gently overlay the surfaces. A pinpoint strike completes the visual appeal.

Estimate: \$500-\$700

LUCERNE



Perhaps One of Only 4 Lucerne 1714 10 Ducats in Private Hands, Plated in Friedberg

30466 Lucerne. Canton gold 10 Ducat 1714-HL MS62 NGC, KM-G51 (Rare), Fr-308 (Very Rare; this coin), cf. HMZ-2-649b (for Taler; 10 Ducat not noted), cf. Divo-543 (same; notes existence of 10 Ducat), Wunderly-Unl. 35.68gm. By Johann Karl Hedlinger. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM48). A classic rarity of the Lucerne series and by all metrics a true giant of 18th-century Swiss coinage—this being one of only three 10 Ducats to be struck throughout the entire history of the Canton, and arguably the most beautiful. Designed by Johann Karl Hedlinger, one of the greatest medalists of the 18th century, who, at the time, was the apprentice of Hans Wilhelm Krauer. This type very much stands as an embodiment of the pinnacle of Lucerne's emissions and a testament to Hedlinger's genius, at a time when widespread quarreling between the Swiss cantons produced discussions on changing the standards for which the coinage of the realm was based. Much like the other examples we have been able to locate, this specimen reveals strong evidence of multiple striking, likely in connection with the high standards of production that would have been observed for such prestigious pieces, producing a definitive relief that stands in medalllic contrast to the watery fields surrounding. Our research has indicated that perhaps as few as four total examples of this 10 Ducat are available to collectors, the only other three pieces to come to auction in the last 20+ years being:

- 1) **The Allen Morretti specimen.** Heritage Auction #3075 (August 2019, Lot 32393); Wilmsdörffer Collection (L. & L. Hamburger October 1905, Lot 763). Certified MS63 by NGC and sold for \$162,000.
- 2) **UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 53** (January 2002, Lot 494); Adolf Iklé Collection (Leo Hamburger May 1909, Lot 339)
- 3) **Schweizer Goldmünzen** (Adolph Hess-Bank Leu Auction 25, April 1964, Lot 204)

We would also note that a representative was altogether missing from the Stroehlin, Hauser-Späth, Hirzel, Bachofen, and Wunderly collections, as well as from Poole's 1878 catalog of the Swiss coins in the South Kensington Museum. At present one of only two certified, we anticipate that this offering will garner fierce competition as it crosses the auction block.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 82 (October 2001, Lot 377)

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



ZURICH



Potentially Unique Zurich 6 Ducat

30467 Zurich. Canton gold 6 Ducat 1624 MS61 NGC, KM-A44 (Rare), Fr-442a (Very Rare), HMZ-Unl., Divo-Unl., Hirzel-Unl., Wunderly-Unl., Hürlimann-Unl. 20.52gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM37). A coin that from every angle seems to exude choice quality, its carefully crafted flan capturing the elements of the dies with ideal centering and not the least trace of bending or planchet undulations discernable even under high magnification. The crispness of the struck features and prevalence of mint luster is simply enviable, allowing with great ease for this classic cantonal design, usually only seen on taler coinage, to be appreciated in full. Entirely missing from all major collections of Swiss coinage we have been able to consult, including Stroehlin, Hirzel, the South Kensington Museum, Fatio, Hess-Leu's Schweizer Goldmünzen sale, and most notably Wunderly, and even as recently as the early 2000s, having been undocumented by Friedberg and the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, it seems hardly a stretch to say that this piece may very well be unique; the only other possible representative is the plate coin in Friedberg, though no indication as to the weight of that specimen is provided. Easily imaginable in a finer technical grade, and a connoisseur's piece through and through.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 84 (October 2002, Lot 827); Schweizerischer Bankverein Auction 13 (January 1984, Lot 26) [cover lot]

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



Nearly Choice 6 Ducat From the Wunderly and Hirzel Collections

30468 Zurich. Canton gold 6 Ducat 1649/7 MS62+ NGC, KM74 var. (Rare; overdate not noted), Fr-472 var. (Very Rare; same), HMZ-Unl., Divo-Unl., Haller-Unl. (see note to Haller-I-482), Wunderly-7 (RRR; this coin), Hürlimann-95 (date given as 1647). 20.80gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM72). A peculiar and most elusive 6 Ducat type, particularly owing to the reworked nature of the dies, most noticeable in the date on the reverse, where the final digit appears to be a 7 reworked from a 9. This same feature is known on both the talers and 1/2 talers of the same date, and suggests that the year may more properly be read as 1647 (as it has been recorded in past literature). Yet what strikes the viewer even more immediately is the coin's astounding state of preservation, its surfaces exuding an essentially choice quality earned through flaring luster, prominent die polish lines, and a general lack of friction from even the highest points of the design. The offering represents the sole example of which we are aware on the auction record; Haller's 1780 catalog of the Swiss Coin and Medal Cabinet merely notes that "some have one in gold," citing an example sold in 1759, and Hürlimann records a single specimen in the Schweizerisches Landesmuseum. An unmissable opportunity.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 84 (October 2002, Lot 903); Hans Wunderly Collection (Leo Hamburger Auction 93, October 1931, Lot 18); Hirzel von Escher Collection (though missing from Adolph Hess's 1888 catalog of his collection)

Estimate: \$30,000-\$40,000



Practically Mint State Zurich 8 Ducat

30469 Zurich. Canton gold 8 Ducat 1646 AU58 NGC, KM-B70 (Rare), Fr-470 (Very Rare), HMZ-Unl., Divo-Unl., Hirzel-Unl., Wunderly-Unl., Hürlimann-90. 27.32gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM66). A fantastic rendition of this classic taler design in gold, struck on a charmingly full flan with only the least evidence of waviness and an essentially full outer border. While traces of die rust and notable strain occur across the reverse, suggesting an already aged die state, this is far from the case on the obverse, where the elements of the struck design appear fully expressed. Sharp contouring is observed in the legends and edge denticles, and even the finer stippling of the lions' fur is still quite clear, suggesting a light level of circulation. Aside from the noted Iklé Collection from which this representative hails, a specimen of 8 Ducat weight was absent from all other major Swiss collections we have consulted, and we would add that the 2002 Leu listing stated that this is the coin cited by Hürlimann, likely on account of its nearly identical weight, though it is not plated in his book.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 84 (October 2002, Lot 884); Adolf Iklé Collection (Leo Hamburger Auction 23, May 1911, Lot 54)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000

CONFEDERATION



Exceptionally Rare Zurich 8 Ducat

30470 Zurich. Canton gold 8 Ducat 1647 UNC Details (Tooled) NGC, KM-Unl., cf. Fr-470 (different design), HMZ-Unl., Hürlimann-Unl., Wunderly-Unl. 27.29gm. An incredibly rare gold 8 Ducat struck with taler dies, though of a different design than is illustrated in various cited references, which depict the alternative motif of two lions holding wreaths rather than a sword and branch. This offering appears to be the only example that has come to market since this exact specimen was previously offered in 2002, and may even be unique in this design. Though marks throughout the surfaces indicate tooling, the flan preserves clear and original luster, while highpoint features remain absent of any discernible wear. An ideal target for the specialist collector, and very likely a singular opportunity to acquire an example of this fleeting and seemingly otherwise totally unavailable type.

Ex. Leu Numismatik Auction 84 (October 2002, Lot 894); Leu Numismatik Auction 60 (October 1994, Lot 21)

Estimate: \$20,000-\$30,000



30471 Confederation "Solothurn Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1855 UNC Details (Cleaned) NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS3, Richter-1117a. Mintage: 3,000. A fully uncirculated example of this sought-after issue, exhibiting pinpoint striking detail in conjunction with shimmering luster that enlivens the fields from every angle. Extremely fine hairlines indicate a prior cleaning, though they have not meaningfully diminished the luster of this Mint State specimen.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



30472 Confederation "Bern Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1857
MS63 NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS4, Richter-181a. Nearly medallion in presentation, with a potent cartwheel effect enhancing the surfaces. A widely-recognized shooting taler featuring a fitting crossed-rifle reverse design.
Estimate: \$500-\$700

30473 Confederation "Zurich Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1859
MS65 NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS5, Hüb-7. Distinctly gem in preservation, with sweeping luster that illuminates the surfaces upon rotation. Complete with soft toning accents that grip the design motifs, yielding a remarkably balanced visual appeal.
Estimate: \$500-\$700



30474 Confederation “Nidwalden Shooting Festival” 5 Francs 1861 MS66+ NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS6, Dav-380. Benefitting from a precise strike that has left minute detail in the dramatic obverse design rendered to impressive clarity, a multi-point satiny luster sweeping the fields underneath a finely balanced argent patina.
Estimate: \$800-\$1,000

30475 Confederation “Neuchatel Shooting Festival” 5 Francs 1863 MS63+ NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS7, Richter-944a. Mintage: 6,000. Sharply struck, with glassy luster veiled in soft, silvery tone. A wholly choice representative of this lower mintage issue.
Estimate: \$500-\$700



30476 Confederation "Schaffhausen Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1865 MS63 NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS8, Richter-1054. Clad in a hearty silver patina to the obverse, sparkling luster and near-Prooflike reflectivity expressed in the outer reverse ring.
Estimate: \$150-\$200

30477 Confederation "Schwyz Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1867 MS63 NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS9, Richter-1707. Mintage: 8,000. Marked by hard argent luster underneath a rich steel obverse patina, the reverse sparkling with mint brilliance and generally very few distractions discernible throughout the unprotected areas.
Estimate: \$200-\$300



30478 Confederation “Zug Shooting Festival” 5 Francs 1869 UNC Details (Cleaned) NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS10, Richter-1617b. Laden with soft, silvery tone and virtually absent the typical hairlines that accompany most cleaned examples.
Estimate: \$80-\$120

30479 Confederation “Zurich Shooting Festival” 5 Francs 1872 MS63+ NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS11, Hüb-13, Richter-1731. Aesthetically balanced by red-russet tone at the peripheries that frames a silvery central patina, underneath which argent luster sparkles alluringly upon rotation. A highly collectible type representative with just a few minor wisps in the left obverse field limiting the assigned grade.
Estimate: \$300-\$400



30480 Confederation "St. Gallen Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1874
MS67+ NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS12, Richter-1156a. Mintage: 15,000. Existing at the very peak of quality seen by NGC for the issue, the surfaces opulently satiny and nearly undisturbed by handling, complemented by a distinctive edge tone that fittingly frames the peripheries.
Estimate: \$400-\$600

30481 Confederation "Lausanne Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1876
MS66 NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS13, Richter-1560. Blessed by warm peach tone that intermingles with a balanced silver patina, soft iridescent blue lining the obverse and reverse legends alike. Scarce in this fine gem quality.
Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



30482 Confederation "Basel Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1879
MS63 Prooflike NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS14, Richter-92b. Mintage: 30,000. Toned in lilac and steel, with a strengthening of the patina around the device peripheries providing a further emboldening effect to the well-sculpted features. Fine hairlines are noted in the fields for accuracy.
Estimate: \$150-\$200

30483 Confederation "Fribourg Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1881
MS65 NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS15, Richter-403. Mintage: 30,000. A shimmering gem blessed with an aquatic iridescence that lines the obverse periphery, the devices satiny and surrounded in subtle golden highlights.
Estimate: \$500-\$700



30484 Confederation "Lugano Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1883 MS65 NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS16, Richter-1373. Mintage: 30,000. Of lustrous gem quality, the scintillating fields and bold strike confirming a careful degree of preservation that renders this offering a highly collectible example of the type.
Estimate: \$250-\$350

30485 Confederation "Bern Shooting Festival" 5 Francs 1885 MS64+ NGC, Bern mint, KM-XS17, Richter-193. Mintage: 25,000. Silver-toned and embellished with honey-gold highlights that grip and accentuate the raised features of the designs. Only minute wisps of handling preclude a full gem designation.
Estimate: \$150-\$250



30486 Confederation gold 100 Francs 1925-B MS64 NGC, Bern mint, KM39, Fr-502, HMZ-2-1193a. Mintage: 5,000. A key to the Swiss Confederation's 20th-century gold series, the 100 Francs of 1925 proves endlessly popular among collectors for its status and prestige. This harvest-gold representative may easily be observed as dazzlingly radiant, a consequence of the potent brilliance emanating from its open expanses, which take on a mirrorlike expression across the reverse. Friction from handling remains decidedly on the gentler side for the assigned grade, with perhaps only a single stray mark to Helvetia's cheek precluding a full gem designation.

Estimate: \$12,000-\$15,000



30487 Confederation gold “Zurich - Winterthur Shooting Festival” Medal 1895 MS65 NGC, Martin-1046, Richter-1756a (RR). 45mm. 76.33gm. By G. Hantz and H. Wildermuth. One of only 44 pieces struck, this ornate shooting medal boasts high-relief details and near-matte surfaces, with centers set deeply within rims rising high above the fields. Admirably preserved, only the most insignificant and nearly imperceptible hairlines precluding finer certification. The first that we have offered, highly collectible in this gem preservation, and further, the only such example yet certified by NGC.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 1219)

Estimate: \$5,000-\$6,000

TRANSYLVANIA



Mint State Kristof Bathory 10 Ducat

30488 Kristof Bathory gold 10 Ducat 1577 UNC Details (Reverse Repaired) NGC, Fr-279, Horsky-5194, Montenuovo-144, Resch-2. Fully uncirculated, with a profoundly lustrous character matching splendidly preserved detail. Resch notes two variations of the 1577 10 Ducat, with the second described as being of generally finer style and containing other minute variations, such as a smaller crown. The present offering is of this second type. Distinctive mint brilliance decorates the flan, glimmering alluringly upon inspection and bathing the precisely struck devices in golden light. Indeed, the only flaw of note is alluded to on the holder insert—a minor reverse “repair” that takes the form of light hairlining in a section of the fields, perhaps more accurately described as very light tooling. In either case this offering remains wonderful to behold, and it goes without saying that such a coin will add considerable prestige to whatever collection it ultimately enters.

Kristof, the elder brother of Stephen Bathory, was placed on the Transylvanian throne by Stephen as his regent, and subsequently was elected his successor by the Transylvanian Diet after Stephen was elected King of Poland. Although he assumed the title of Vaivoda (roughly “military governor”), Kristof never utilized the title on his coins, and supposedly refrained from using the title of Prince due to his recognition of his brother’s rule over Transylvania. In this light, it is very likely that the reverse legend, Virtus Unita Valet (“Virtue United Prevails”), was meant to underline this important relationship between the two brothers.

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



Fully Uncirculated 10 Ducat of Stephan Bocskai

30489 Stephan Bocskai gold 10 Ducat 1605 MS62 NGC, Uncertain mint (possibly Nagybanya), KM18, Fr-305, Horsky-5238, Montenuovo-341, Husz-171, Resch-3. 34.75gm. A glistening and well-preserved example of this very rare issue combining superior detail and potent visual impact. Not at all surprising for a gold multiple of its age and issue, Bocskai's 10 Ducats prove extremely elusive and only intermittently appear at auction in any conditional tier. A survey of records quickly illustrates that a majority of these bear signs of circulation, oftentimes heavily so. This offering, however, breaks that general trend by its superior lustrous quality, the surfaces gently glittering in a backdrop to devices crafted precisely and without any areas of softness. Ignited in golden brilliance and ranked as the finest and only Mint State example encountered by NGC to date, this superb 10 Ducat appears destined for an elite collection.

Although he reigned over Transylvania for a relatively short time, Stephan Bocskai's influence was profound. Just before his ascent, the Habsburgs had begun a violent counter-reformation in Hungary and Transylvania. In league with the Ottoman Empire, he was able to lead an army of Hajdúk to victory in the field, bringing the Habsburg Monarchy to the negotiating table, concluding with the Treaty of Vienna, which guaranteed constitutional and religious rights to all citizens of both Transylvania and Hungary. Within six months following, the Habsburgs also made peace with the Ottoman Empire, ending the "Long Turkish War." This piece, minted in the midst of Bocskai's insurrection, is clear in its statement of nationalism, the reverse legend translating to: "It is sweet to die for your country."

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 297 (October 2003, Lot 188)

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



30490 Sigismund Rakoczi gold 10 Ducat 1607 AU58 NGC, Klausenburg mint, KM44, Fr-323, Horsky-5246, Montenuovo-416, Resch-1. 34.82gm. A phenomenal representative of this rare issue featuring Sigismund Rákóczi standing armored with scepter and sword in hand. The type is coveted for its utter scarcity in all states of preservation, but near-Mint State preservation only further elevates this particular offering to a level of eye appeal that is virtually “as good as it gets.” The devices remain outlined in full as-struck relief, and truly, very little wear to these is even discernible at the highest points. The raised portions of the design and even the finest texturing in Rákóczi’s armor display tremendous character and visual quality. Meanwhile, a distinctive golden glow embellishes the whole of the planchet, bathing the devices in golden luminosity that seems only minimally impacted by either time or trivial handling.

Sigismund was elected Prince of Transylvania in February of 1607 following the death of Stephen Bocskay, in opposition to the candidates desired by the Habsburgs and Ottomans. He was an able governor and administrator, but was forced to resign in March of 1608 by Gabriel Báthory to prevent an internal conflict involving Hajduks, who had been unpaid for their service to Bocskay.

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



Virtually Mint State and Exceedingly Rare Transylvania 10 Ducat

30491 Gabriel Bathory gold 10 Ducat 1611-CIBIN AU58 NGC, Hermannstadt mint, KM86 (Rare), Fr-328, Horsky-Unl., Resch-106. 34.66gm. Struck with the same dies that were employed in the striking of the talers of the same date (cf. Dav-4704), in a diameter apparently somewhat smaller than the typical Transylvanian talers of the contemporary series. While we can say that this piece is not unique, for there is an example plated in Friedberg bearing signs of wear and minor graffiti, it is doubtlessly accurate that the type is exceptionally rare. This offering represents the first and only example that we have seen, with no others apparently listed in auction records from the last 20 years. Given the condition of this representative, lustrous with mint gleam and hardly any evidence of circulation at all, it is quite possible that this specimen ranks as the finest survivor of its type. Accordingly, we don't doubt that it will be met by highly competitive bidding as it crosses the auction block. A miraculous survivor by all measures, and a coin destined for a truly elite type collection of Transylvanian or European gold.

Estimate: \$50,000-\$75,000



Choice Mint State Gabriel Bethlen 10 Ducat

30492 Gabriel Bethlen gold 10 Ducat 1619-AI MS63 NGC, Weissenburg (Karlsburg) mint, KM117 (Rare), Fr-347, Husz-303, Resch-25. 34.70gm. A conditionally superior specimen that pushes the very bounds of what is normally considered possible for a larger gold emission of its age and type. Struck during the tumult and chaos of the Thirty Years' War, this heavy gold issue was produced in the same year that Bethlen invaded Royal Hungary—in a stage of the conflict when the Protestants were very much taking the initiative—capturing Pressburg before the ultimate ceding of the Hungarian crown by the opposing side. Though Bethlen would ultimately be put on the defensive by the course of events, suing for peace after the Battle of White Mountain in November of 1620, this specimen is a testament to Transylvanian power and influence during a time in which the Prince maintained an effective mercenary army capable of playing a considerable role in European affairs.

The strike is crisp throughout, with Bethlen's hat, beard, and minute hair detail painstakingly crafted to exact precision. This observation extends equally to the reverse, which exhibits utter clarity and sharpness in the legends and shield motif, all basking in full Mint State luminosity that appears entirely fresh and devoid of any reduction by handling. This offering remains the only example seen by NGC to date, and it is difficult to imagine that it would be exceeded in quality any time soon, if at all.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 295 (May 2003, Lot 88)

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Possibly the Second Known Achatius Barcsai Klippe 10 Ducat

30493 Achatius Barcsai gold Siege Klippe 10 Ducat 1660-CIB-INIENSI AU58 NGC, Hermannstadt mint, KM342 (Rare), Fr-408, Resch-12, Husz-576. 34.43gm. Struck during the Siege of Hermannstadt upon an octagonal planchet with 1/2 taler dies. Exceedingly rare, and quite possibly unique in private hands, this being the sole specimen we have been able to locate, although Resch records a specimen in the Hungarian National Museum in Budapest (the same line drawing illustrated in the *Standard Catalog*). Aged to a brass-gold hue with soft honey-amber touches dispersed over the faces, minute charcoal accents gripping the raised features. Beyond the uncontested rarity of the piece, what immediately strikes the viewer is an abundance of die rust within the confines of the central stamp, serving as an indication that the dies may have been employed in the piece's striking some time after their own production. Whatever the case, this offering represents a singular opportunity for our interested bidders, and whoever ends the day with this marvelous coin in their hands will possess a covetable relic of Transylvanian numismatics that by all reasonable observation may be counted as irreplaceable.

A vassal of the Turks who had taken control over most of Hungary, Achatius Barcsai had been elevated to the position of Prince by the Transylvanian Diet following the failed campaigns of George II Rakoczi in 1657. During the ensuing conflict resulting from Rakoczi's overtures to the Diet and the Turks' continued support of their candidate to the throne, Rakoczi's forces managed to besiege Barcsai in the city of Hermannstadt, a siege which lasted from December 1659 until May 1660, when the Turkish relief forces under Vizier Budai and Sidi Ahmed drew away the attention of his armies. Interestingly, Wormser notes that during the siege, Barcsai attempted to sue for peace and enter into negotiations with Rakoczi, though this effort was thoroughly overruled by the citizens of the city.

Ex. Adolph Hess-Bank Leu Goldprägungen Auction (October 1962, Lot 690)

Estimate: \$60,000-\$80,000



Superb 10 Ducat of Transylvania as an Ottoman Vassal State

30494 Michael I Apafi gold 10 Ducat 1671-AC AU53 NGC, Klausenburg mint, KM-A416 (Rare), Fr-458, Horsky-5359, Montenuovo-1061, Husz-642, cf. Resch-83 (there, with AF initials). 34.01gm. From a chaotic period of Transylvanian history, in which the balance of power was under continuous fluctuation. Having ruled Transylvania uncontested since 1662, Michael I Apafi maintained the independence of his principality against the Holy Roman Empire through alliances with Hungarian rebels and the Ottoman Empire until the Ottomans were defeated at the walls of Vienna in 1683. He was ultimately forced to conclude a treaty directly with Leopold I, completed just a few years before his death in 1690. This rare and doubtlessly imposing mid-reign gold issue features a bold strike and no shortage of luster in the fields. One of approximately 5 total representatives that we have been able to locate at auction in recent decades, with this mint-date combination entirely missing from Resch, though an example is present in the Hungarian National Museum in Budapest.

Ex. Hess-Divo Auction 297 (October 2003, Lot 189)

Estimate: \$40,000-\$60,000



Rare Leopold I 10 Ducat Struck from Taler Dies

30495 Leopold I gold 10 Ducat 1696-KV AU58 NGC, Klausenburg mint, KM517, Fr-482, Horsky-Unl., Husz-835, Resch-16, CNA-91-g-1. 34.45gm. Struck from Taler dies (cf. KM510). A coin that is as rare as it is visually magnificent scarcely occurs, yet here such an emission presents itself in the full majesty of near-Mint condition: the 1696 gold 10 Ducat of Leopold I, produced at the Klausenburg mint. Minute handling wisps and light contact marks preclude a full uncirculated designation, though they are truly minor in the larger scope of the offering's importance to the Transylvanian series. Indeed, while the type proves highly coveted in all states of preservation, it is in this borderline uncirculated state that the issue unveils its most complex character and desirability. Bereft of any consequential hits, knocks, or damage across its 300+ year history, the condition of this lustrous representative serves as a mark of prestige that places it among the foremost tier of surviving specimens; the whole of the surfaces glisten alluringly under light, carrying a balanced shade of orange-gold tone that only further underscores the age and originality of this 17th-century rarity. The taler issues of Leopold I remain highly popular in their own right, especially those originating in the Transylvanian domains of the Holy Roman Empire, and doubtlessly, this golden offering, produced in a full-size and monumental taler format, can only be said to represent the peak of desirability to collectors, standing leagues beyond that relative attainability to which most collectors of the wider series are accustomed.

Estimate: \$80,000-\$120,000



Likely the Only Example Available in Private Hands

30496 Maria Theresa gold 5 Ducat 1759 MS61+ NGC, Karlsburg mint, cf. KM632 (struck with 1/2 Taler dies), Fr-529 (under Hungary; not pictured, though likely also from 1/2 Taler dies), Horsky-Unl., cf. Resch-60 (same), Herinek-36 (same). 17.42gm. A rare variant of the 5 Ducat issue unlisted in Resch, Herinek, and the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, struck with taler dies rather than the “usual” (though still very rare) 1/2 taler dies employed in the standard production of the type. Only adding to its interest, a comparison to the 1759 Karlsburg Konventionstaler shows clear die variations, including an obverse legend that ends in “RE•” rather than “REG•,” indicated for the type in the *Standard Catalog* and Davenport. This, then, leads to the conclusion that this fascinating issue represents a unique issuance, produced with dies that are particular to this type, and resulting in a much broader format than the regular issue, which conforms to a 1/2 taler diameter.

The rarity of the present piece is without question—Tassilo Eypeltauer could only locate a single example in the Hungarian National Museum in Budapest, with this type also missing from the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. Clearly preserved within the bounds of Mint State, the offering contains an abundance of shimmering luster that serves as a backdrop for devices that have been struck to exacting standards—a fact that should perhaps come as no surprise given the absolute minimal use of the dies employed in its production. No matter what its enigmatic history, this important relic of Austro-Transylvanian numismatics will be regarded as a treasured centerpiece for many years to come.

Ex. Künker Auction 91 (March 2004, Lot 7835)

Estimate: \$30,000-\$50,000



YUGOSLAVIA



30497 Alexander I gold “Corn Countermarked” 4 Dukata 1932-(k) UNC Details (Obverse Tooled) NGC, Belgrade mint, KM14.2. Corn/wheat counterstamp at 4 o’clock on the obverse. Lightly hairlined with some areas of patchiness to the obverse, though abundant golden luster is retained throughout the surfaces.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000

End Of Session Two

SESSION THREE
SATURDAY, MARCH 27 • 1:00 PM CT

WORLD COINS

ALBANIA - ZAMBIA
(POST-1950)



ALBANIA



31001 People's Socialist Republic gold Proof "Buthrotum Ruins" 200 Leke 1968 PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM55.1, Fr-19. Mintage: 2,170. An impressively large specimen showcasing a classical bust and architecture of the Buthrotum. The highly reflective fields show only a few imperfections, which are appropriate for the assigned grade. AGW 1.1426 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31002 People's Socialist Republic gold Proof "Prince Skanderbeg" 500 Leke 1968 PR65 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM56.1, Fr-18. Mintage 1,520. #655. An imposing piece commemorating the 500th anniversary of the death of Prince Skanderbeg, an Armenian military leader most notable for his conquests over the Ottomans. AGW 2.8570 oz.
Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000

ALDERNEY



31003 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof "Islander's Return" 2 Pounds 1995 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM13b, Fr-10. Mintage: 250. Commemorating the return of the inhabitants of the Channel Islands at the conclusion of the Second World War, this coin depicts a passenger boat ferrying displaced citizens home over watery, mirrored fields. The sole finest at NGC and PCGS. AGW 1.4000 oz.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000



31004 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Queen Mother” 5 Pounds 1995 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM14b, Fr-11. Mintage: 150. Depicting a frosted vignette of the Queen Mother with children against deeply mirrored fields, this large planchet issue allows for an appropriate amount of negative space to highlight Elizabeth’s bust. AGW 1.4000 oz.
Estimate: \$1,600-\$1,800



31005 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Princess Diana - The Work Continues” 5 Pounds 2002 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM27b, Fr-22. Mintage: 100. Marking the 5th anniversary of Princess Diana’s passing, this commemorative was issued to raise money for her memorial fund. AGW 1.1771 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31006 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Final Flight - Concorde” 5 Pounds 2003 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM35b, Fr-29. Mintage: 500. Tied for the finest certified with eight others at NGC, this issue celebrates the Concorde’s final flight with a depiction of the iconic aircraft. AGW 1.1770 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

ASCENSION ISLAND



31007 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Queen Mother” 50 Pence 1995 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM7b, Fr-2. Mintage: 150. Tied for the finest at NGC with one other, this rare specimen depicts a sleek portrait of the Queen Mother fishing and a regal portrait of a crowned Elizabeth. AGW 1.400 oz.
Estimate: \$1,600-\$1,800



31008 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “100th Anniversary of the Queen Mother’s Birth” 50 Pence ND (2000) PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Valcambi mint, KM12b, Fr-3. Mintage: 100. This virtually flawless piece exhibits the dual portraits of a crowned Elizabeth and the Queen Mother and bears minute imperfections to the otherwise watery fields. AGW 1.4009 oz.
Estimate: \$1,600-\$1,800

AUSTRALIA



31009 Elizabeth II gold Proof Colorized “Prospector” 100 Dollars 2002-P PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, Perth mint, KM635. Mintage: 1,500. This commemorative issue celebrates the Australian gold prospector with a vignette depicting gold panning, the fields displaying a colorized sky and tent. AGW 1.0000 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31010 Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee” 100 Dollars 2002-B PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Royal Australian mint, KM646, Fr-87. Mintage: 2,002. Commemorating Elizabeth’s Golden Jubilee, this specimen exhibits near perfection in its deeply reflective fields, with only a few minutes spots of haze. AGW 1.0094 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

BAHAMAS



31011 Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golf - Hole in One” 25 Dollars 1994 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM202, Fr-64. AGW 0.9999 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

BELGIUM



31012 Baudouin gold 100 Ecu 1989-(qp) MS69 NGC, KM175, Fr-428. A nearly perfect example of this modern Maria Theresa issue that exhibits a lovely, satiny portrait. AGW 1.000 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

BELIZE



31013 Elizabeth II gold Proof “Battle of El Alamein” 250 Dollars 1992 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM113, Fr-21. Estimated mintage: 500. Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Battle of El Alamein, this representative displays a stoic General Montgomery commanding tanks and a regal portrait Elizabeth II. AGW 1.0024 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31014 Elizabeth II gold Proof “Royal Visit” 500 Dollars 1985 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM101, Fr-16. Estimated mintage: 250. Commemorating the Queen’s royal visit as her first stop on a 26-day tour, this coin boasts pitch-black fields and is fully deserving of the assigned grade. AGW 1.4015 oz.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000

BERMUDA



31015 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Hogge Money” 100 Dollars 1989 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM60, Fr-13. Mintage: 500. A pristine specimen with a silk-textured central design showing the sailing vessel found on genuine pieces of Hogge money, aptly named for the hog that is depicted on that coin’s obverse. AGW 1.0024 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31016 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Hogge Money” 100 Dollars 1989 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM60, Fr-13. Mintage: 500. Struck to commemorate the famed and extremely rare “Hogge Money” of Bermuda, this example displays a rendering of the masted sailing vessel found on the reverse of the original coins. A near-flawless piece held back by a small copper spot. AGW 1.0024 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31019 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Spitfires Over Dover” 250 Dollars 1990 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM107, Fr-37. Mintage: 500. This issue honors the Spitfires that defended the British throughout WWII and exhibits a small bust of Churchill with the inscription “So Much Owed By So Many To So Few.” AGW 1.0024 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

BOTSWANA



31017 Republic gold “Wild Hyena” 150 Pula 1978 MS68 NGC, KM13, Fr-3. Mintage: 664. This conservation issue depicting a wild hyena features muted gold and semi-Prooflike surfaces. AGW 0.9675 oz.
Estimate: \$800-\$1,200

CAYMAN ISLANDS



31018 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Royal Land Grant” 250 Dollars 1985 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM82, Fr-30. Mintage: 250. Tied for the finest at NGC with three others, this issue was struck to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the first royal land grant issued by the Crown and depicts Grand Cayman, Little Cayman, and Cayman Brac. A virtually perfect piece with highly reflective fields and satiny motifs. AGW 1.4016 oz.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000

CHAD



31020 Republic gold Proof “Independence Anniversary” 10000 Francs ND (1970)-NI PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM11, Fr-2. Mintage: 4,000. A brilliant and large specimen depicting Charles de Gaulle, struck to commemorate the 10th anniversary of independence from France during the Pan-African era, a time when many of Chad’s neighbors gained independence from its ruling nations. AGW 1.0416 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



CHILE



31021 Republic gold Proof "San Martin's Passage" 200 Pesos 1968-So PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Santiago mint, KM186, Fr-58. Mintage: 965. Honoring the 150th anniversary of San Martin's passage through the Andes, eventually leading to the liberation of Chile from Spanish rule, this large gold issue exhibits captivating and frosted vignettes featured against a highly reflective planchet. AGW 1.1770 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31022 Republic gold Proof "National Flag Anniversary" 500 Pesos 1968-So PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, Santiago mint, KM187, Fr-57. Despite minor friction to the sitter's frosted cheek and scant hairlines, this representative displays significant eye appeal and fully defined central motifs. AGW 2.9426 oz.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000

COLOMBIA



31023 Republic gold Proof "Eucharistic Congress" 500 Pesos 1968-NI PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM234, Fr-118. Mintage: 8,000. Struck in celebration of the International Eucharistic Congress and featuring a bust of Pope Paul VI. AGW 0.6221 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800



31024 Republic gold Proof "Battle of Boyaca" 500 Pesos 1969-NI PR65 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM241, Fr-123. Mintage including Bogota issue: 6,000. Struck to commemorate the battle that won Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Panama their independence from Spain, this issue features a bold portrait of Simon Bolivar. Despite a well-sculpted obverse and highly reflective fields, a few scattered surface hairlines are apparent. AGW 0.6221 oz.

Estimate: \$500-\$700



31025 Republic gold Proof "Pan-American Games" 500 Pesos 1971-B PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, Bogota mint, KM251, Fr-128. Mintage: 6,000. Struck for the 6th Pan-American Games in Cali, this piece displays a figural scene enveloped by panels representing various sporting events. AGW 0.6221 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800



31026 Republic gold Proof “Eucharistic Congress” 1500 Pesos 1968-NI PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM235, Fr-117. Mintage: 8,000. #5916. Struck to memorialize the International Eucharistic Congress and tied for the finest at NGC with one other. AGW 1.8663 oz.
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



31027 Republic gold Proof “Battle of Boyacá” 1500 Pesos 1969-NI PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM242, Fr-122. Mintage: 6,000. #58. The finest specimen submitted to NGC, this representative commemorates the 150th anniversary of Santander’s victory at the Battle of Boyacá. Deep mirrors highlight Santander and Bolívar’s frosted portraits on this captivating, large issue. AGW 1.8663 oz.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$2,500



31028 Republic gold Proof “Ocelot” 15000 Pesos 1978 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM266, Fr-140. Starkly contrasting cameo devices and pitch-black fields populate this conservation issue highlighting the ocelot. AGW 0.9675 oz.

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400



31029 Republic gold “Ocelot” 15000 Pesos 1978 MS67 NGC, KM266, Fr-140. Mintage: 490. An elusive, brilliant, pale-gold conservation issue depicting an ocelot perched atop a rock. AGW 0.9675 oz.

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

COSTA RICA



31030 Republic gold Proof “Anteater” 1500 Colones 1974 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, British Royal mint, KM202, Fr-28. Mintage: 726. Conservation series. A scarce conservation piece commemorating the anteater, displaying rose gold and russet tone to the peripheries. AGW 0.9675 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,200

DAHOMEY



31031 Republic gold Proof “Three Presidents” 25000 Francs 1971 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM9, Fr-1. Mintage: 380. #158. Struck in honor of Ahomadégbé, Apithy, and Maga, the three presidents who headed the newly formed Republic of Dahomey and who would be deposed in a coup the following year. This scarce modern issue is tied for the finest at NGC. AGW 2.5717 oz.

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



31032 Republic gold “Juan Pablo Duarte” 200 Pesos 1977 MS62 NGC, KM47, Fr-4. Mintage: 1,000. A semi-Prooflike near-choice issue, exhibiting a stylized portrait of the iconic Dominican military leader and activist, Juan Pablo Duarte, struck to commemorate the centennial of his death. AGW 0.7973 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800

EGYPT



31033 Arab Republic gold “Aswan Dam” 5 Pounds AH 1379 (1960) MS63+ NGC, KM402, Fr-119. Mintage: 5,000. Abundant with luster, this strongly struck representative celebrates the construction of the Aswan Dam across the Nile. Accompanied by a UBS auction tag. AGW 1.1956 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31034 Arab Republic gold “Diversion on the Nile” 5 Pounds AH 1384 (1964) MS67 NGC, KM408, Fr-122. As the sole finest specimen of the “Diversion of the Nile” commemorative at NGC and PCGS, this coin boasts fully lustrous motifs on honey-gold surfaces and is fully deserving of the assigned grade. AGW 0.7314 oz.
Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400



31035 Arab Republic gold “Gamal Abdel Nasser” 5 Pounds AH 1390 (1970) MS63 NGC, KM428, Fr-125. Mintage: 3,000. Memorializing Gamal Abdel Nasser, the second president of Egypt, and most notable for overthrowing King Farouk in 1952, this choice example displays a sparsely decorated profile bust of the leader on the obverse with deep apricot hues towards the peripheries. AGW 0.7314 oz.
Estimate: \$600-\$800



31036 Arab Republic gold “National Bank of Egypt” 5 Pounds AH 1393 (1973) MS62 NGC, KM441, Fr-127. Mintage: 1,000. The deep goldenrod hues over a semi-Prooflike surface create a charming eye-appeal to this commemorative issue, marking the 75th anniversary of the National Bank of Egypt. AGW 0.7314 oz.
Estimate: \$600-\$800



31037 Arab Republic gold Proof “Peace Treaty” 5 Pounds AH 1400 (1980) PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM517, Fr-143. Mintage: 125. Extremely scarce in Proof, this modern issue was struck to commemorate the historic peace treaty between Israel and Egypt and displays a whimsical hand with a quill and dove behind a portrait of Anwar Sadat. Tied for the second finest at NGC with one finer. AGW 0.7314 oz.
Estimate: \$600-\$800



ETHIOPIA



31038 Haile Selassie I gold Proof “Emperor’s Birth & Reign” 100 Dollars 1966-NI PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM41, Fr-31. Mintage: 11,000. Struck to commemorate the 75th birthday and 50th anniversary of Selassie I’s reign, this large, charming gold issue is tied for second-finest at NGC with only one example certified higher. Complete with silky, frosted designs. AGW 1.1574 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31039 Haile Selassie I gold Proof “Emperor’s Birth & Reign” 100 Dollars 1972-NI PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM59, Fr-35. Mintage: 10,000. #48. A large issue commemorating Haile Selassie. AGW 1.1574 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

FALKLAND ISLANDS



31040 Haile Selassie I gold Proof “Emperor’s Birth & Reign” 200 Dollars EE 1958 (1966)-NI PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM42, Fr-30. Mintage: 8,823. #5719. Celebrating the 75th birthday and 50th year of Emperor Haile Selassie I’s reign, this large denomination boasts even, yellow-gold surfaces and displays scant hairlines and lightly marked surfaces, noted for the sake of accuracy. AGW 2.3148 oz.
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



31041 People’s Democratic Republic gold “Walia Ibex” 600 Birr EE 1970 (1977) MS68 NGC, KM63. Mintage: 547. A scarce conservation issue honoring the endangered walia ibex, found exclusively in the mountains of northern Ethiopia. This example exhibits semi-Prooflike surfaces and is bested by only one other at PCGS. AGW 0.9675 oz.
Estimate: \$800-\$1,200



31042 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “150th Anniversary of British Rule” 50 Pence 1983 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM19b, Fr-7. Mintage: 150. Commemorating the 150th anniversary of British rule in the Falklands. A magnificent example of this modern rarity, tied for the second finest at NGC, with a single finer. Depicting the sailing vessel “Desire,” which first sighted the islands in 1592. AGW 1.4015 oz.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,200



31043 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “40th Anniversary of Reign” 50 Pence 1992 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM34b, Fr-19. Mintage: 150. Struck to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Elizabeth II’s reign. As the sole finest at NGC, this magnificent coin displays heavy contrasts between the deeply mirrored fields and frosted devices. AGW 1.4016 oz.
Estimate: \$1,600-\$1,800



31044 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “V.E. Day 50th Anniversary” 50 Pence 1995 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM45b, Fr-21. Mintage: 100. A scarce modern issue commemorating the 50th anniversary of V.E. Day, the reverse depicts four flags of allied nations with shafts terminating on the Falkland Islands flag, topped by a spread-wing dove. Assigned a perfect grade and tied with one other at NGC, this specimen is flawless, with jet-black fields and highly frosted devices. AGW 1.4015 oz.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000



31045 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “100th Anniversary of Victoria’s Death” 50 Pence 2001 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM70b, Fr-27. Mintage: 100. Struck to commemorate the centennial of Queen Victoria’s death, this issue boasts an attractive and popular Gothic-type portrait. Among four others at NGC in this top level of certification. AGW 1.14016 oz.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,200



31048 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Queen on Throne” 50 Pence 2002 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM82b.2, Fr-30. Mintage: 50 (split between plain and multicolored bunting varieties). Another stunning Golden Jubilee issue with the Queen on the throne and plain bunting. The only entry of this coin in the NGC population report. AGW 1.1775 oz
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31046 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Royal Crown” 50 Pence 2002 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM80b.2, Fr-30. Mintage: 150 (split between the plain and multicolored bunting varieties). The royal crown variety of the Golden Jubilee series and the sole example at NGC, this perfectly struck coin contains spotless surfaces and is seldom seen on the market. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31049 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Royal Throne” 50 Pence 2002 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM81b.1, Fr-30. Mintage: 150 (split between plain and multicolored bunting varieties). The sole inhabitant at NGC, this Golden Jubilee specimen presents a brilliant strike, with images of the royal throne set against deeply mirrored fields. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31047 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Queen & Treehouse” 50 Pence 2002 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM84b.2, Fr-30. A very scarce issue split between plain and multicolored bunting, this Golden Jubilee representative features images of the Queen and a treehouse. Seldom seen on the market, this specimen is currently the lone example graded by NGC. AGW 1.775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31050 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Succession to the Throne” 50 Pence 2002 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM77b.2, Fr-30. *The Standard Catalog of World Coins* lists the mintage for this type at 50 pieces, split between the plain and multicolored bunting varieties. A radiant and technically perfect “Golden Jubilee” issue depicting the succession to the throne below plain bunting. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31051 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Scepter & Orb” 50 Pence 2002 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM79b.2, Fr-30. *The Standard Catalog of World Coins* lists the mintage for the type at 150 pieces, split between the plain and multicolored bunting varieties. Exhibiting the royal scepter and orb, this is the sole example of this entry in the Falklands “Golden Jubilee” series at NGC. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31054 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Coronation Coach” 50 Pence 2002 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM78b.2, Fr-30. Mintage: 150 (split between the plain and multicolored bunting varieties). A Golden Jubilee issue with the coronation coach and plain bunting. The only coin of this variety submitted to either grading service, commanding a noteworthy grade and the appropriate superlative of “Ultra Cameo.” AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31052 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Royal Family” 50 Pence 2002 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM83b.2, Fr-30. *The Standard Catalog of World Coins* lists the mintage for the type at 50 pieces, split between the plain and multicolored bunting varieties. Struck to commemorate Elizabeth’s Golden Jubilee and displaying a wonderful frosted portrait of the Royal Family on this near perfect, sole representative at NGC. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31055 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Queen & Crowd” 50 Pence 2002 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM76b.2, Fr-30. Mintage: 50 (split between plain and multicolored bunting varieties). Near technical perfection, this Golden Jubilee “Queen & Crowd” variety boasts exceptionally deep mirrors, evenly frosted motifs, and a hint of rose gold toning to the otherwise plain bunting. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31053 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Queen on Throne” 50 Pence 2002 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM73b.2, Fr-30. *The Standard Catalog of World Coins* lists the mintage for the type at 150 pieces, split between the plain and multicolored bunting varieties. The only example submitted to NGC and a near perfect one at that, with the Golden Jubilee motif depicting the Queen on the throne with plain bunting. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31056 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee - Queen & Radio Microphone” 50 Pence 2002 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM75b.2, Fr-30. *The Standard Catalog of World Coins* lists the mintage for the type at 50 pieces, split between the plain and multicolored bunting varieties. This exceedingly rare Golden Jubilee issue with plain bunting, which depicts the Queen and a radio microphone, is the only example in the NGC population report. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31057 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Royal Wedding 10th Anniversary” 5 Pounds 1991 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM33, Fr-13. Mintage: 200. Struck to commemorate the 10th wedding anniversary of Prince Charles and Lady Diana, with the Prince of Wales’ plumes atop silhouetted busts, centered within a wreath. This stunning example exhibits lovely contrasting surfaces and a few minute marks towards the periphery, noted for the sake of accuracy. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,600-\$1,800



31058 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Queen Mother 90th Birthday” 100 Pounds 1990 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM31, Fr-9. Mintage: 750. For the 90th birthday of the Queen Mother. AGW 1.0024 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31059 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Ship Desire 400th Anniversary” 100 Pounds 1992 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM42, Fr-14. Mintage: 400. Commemorating the 400th anniversary of the first sighting of the Falkland Islands by the British Royal Navy sailing the “Desire.” Tied for the finest at NGC with two others in this near-pristine condition, and exhibiting a beautifully rendered maritime scene against the backdrop of the islands. AGW 1.0024 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31060 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold “Falkland Fur Seal” 150 Pounds 1979 MS67 NGC, KM13, Fr-5. Mintage: 488. Conservation issue. A lovely representative with highly Prooflike surfaces. AGW 0.9675 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

FIJI



31061 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold “Banded Iguana” 250 Dollars 1978 MS66 NGC, KM43, Fr-3. Mintage: 810. The deeply mirrored fields highlight the banded iguana on this sun-gold conservation issue. AGW 0.9675 oz.
Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

FRANCE



31062 Republic gold Proof “Dupre Style Bust” 100 Francs 2000 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM-Unl., Fr-746. Mintage: 1,000. A technically perfect specimen that shares the finest designation with one other, and boasts a modernized representation of the iconic Dupre bust found on earlier coins of the French Republic. Accompanied by its original Monnaie de Paris COA. AGW 0.5028 oz.
Estimate: \$600-\$800



31063 Republic gold Proof "Chaplain's Marianne Bust" 100 Francs 2000 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM1976, Fr-746. Mintage: 846. Flawless in every respect, depicting a rarely seen cameo bust after Jules Chaplain's. Accompanied by a Monnaie de Paris COA. AGW 0.5028 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800



31064 Republic gold Proof "Louvre Bicentennial - Mona Lisa" 500 Francs 1993 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM1024, Fr-634. Mintage: 5,000. Jet-black fields pronounce the Louvre's most famous sitter on this bicentennial commemorative issue. Accompanied by original Monnaie de Paris COA. AGW 0.999 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31065 Republic gold Proof "Louvre Bicentennial - Venus de Milo" 500 Francs 1993 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM1025.1, Fr-635. Mintage: 5,000. Celebrating the bicentennial of the Louvre by featuring one of the most iconic inhabitants of the museum, the Venus de Milo. The reverse depicts a stunning architectural exterior view of the museum, centering the Louvre Pyramid. An impressive grade, limited by only a few hairlines populating the obverse. Accompanied by the original Monnaie de Paris COA. AGW 0.999 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31066 Republic gold Proof "Audrey Hepburn" 500 Francs 1994 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM1098, Fr-671. Mintage: 3,000. This Audrey Hepburn issue from the commemorative 500 francs series produced by France in the 1990s is inhibited by only a few imperfections and haze seen in the highly reflective fields. Sold with its original Monnaie de Paris COA. AGW 0.9968 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31067 Republic gold Proof "Rodin - The Thinker" 500 Francs 1996 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM1128, Fr-700a. Mintage: 5,000. Museum Treasures series. Bordering perfection, this representative displays nearly flawless, jet-black fields that highlight the subject of the issue, Rodin's infamous sculpture, "The Thinker." Accompanied by a Monnaie de Paris COA. AGW 0.999 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31068 Republic gold Proof "Michelangelo - David" 500 Francs 1997 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM1151, Fr-709. Mintage: 1,000. The scarcer date for the two-year commemorative type that depicts Michelangelo's David; tied for finest with one other at NGC. Sold with the original Monnaie de Paris COA. AGW 0.999 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



GABON



31069 Republic gold Proof “Yves Saint Laurent” 500 Francs 2000 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM1237, Fr-744. Mintage: 1,000. A visually stunning commemorative issue celebrating Yves Saint Laurent, with an homage to popular motifs utilized by the famed French fashion designer. AGW 0.999 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31070 Republic gold Proof “Europa” 655.957 Francs 1999 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM1257. Mintage: 2,000. Displaying a fascinating design to the reverse showing the conversation rates of 11 European nations’ currencies to the assigned denomination and the opposite side with an allegorical depiction of Europa. Tied for second finest at NGC, with two finer. AGW 0.9999 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31071 Republic gold Proof “Europa” 50 Euro 2003 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM1993. Mintage: 2,000. A pristine specimen with none finer at NGC, the reverse depicting a stylized quatrefoil with the names of the members of the European Union outlined. Sold with original Monnaie de Paris COA. AGW 0.999 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31072 Republic gold Proof “Independence” 100 Francs 1960 PR68 Cameo NGC, KM4, Fr-1. Mintage: 500. Minted to commemorate Gabon’s independence from France, this issue depicts President Léon M’ba and the newly formed country’s coat of arms. A fine representative with slightly subdued reflectivity to the fields. AGW 0.9259 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31073 Republic gold Proof “Reliquary Figure - Bakota” 5000 Francs 1969-NI PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM8, Fr-7. Mintage: 4,000. This interesting commemorative issue depicts an obverse portrait of Albert-Bernard Bongo and the reverse of a reliquary figure, or Mbulu Ngulu, of the native Bakota tribe. These figures were especially important to the Bakota and utilized as guardians over their ancestors’ remains. This piece is tied for finest at NGC with one other. AGW 0.5064 oz.
Estimate: \$600-\$800



31074 Republic gold Proof “First Moon Landing” 10000 Francs 1969-NI PR65 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM9, Fr-6. Mintage: 4,000. Struck to celebrate NASA’s moon landing, this large gold issue features a lovely lunar landscape and a bust of Albert-Bernard Bongo. The specimen exhibits scattered scuffs to the frosted portrait of Bongo and surface hairlines that withhold it from higher grades. AGW 1.0127 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31075 Republic gold Proof “Apollo 11 Launching Pad” 20000 Francs 1969-NI PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM10, Fr-5. Mintage: 4,000. #0018. The sole finest at NGC by 3 full grade points, this high denomination issue was struck in celebration of the Apollo 11 mission, depicting the infamous spacefaring vessel on the launch pad beneath the arms of Gabon. AGW 2.0254 oz.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000

GAMBIA



31076 Republic gold “Sitatunga” 500 Dalasis 1977 MS68 NGC, KM19, Fr-1. Mintage: 699. A brilliant specimen in the popular conservation series that depicts a sitatunga, an antelope native to The Gambia, with subdued, reflective fields. AGW 0.9675 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,200



GIBRALTAR



31077 British Colony. Elizabeth II tri-metallic silver, gold, & platinum Proof "21st Century" Crown 2001-PM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM1056, Fr-114. Mintage: 2,001. Celebrating the 21st century, this interesting specimen exhibits a silver space-themed outer ring, a gold science-themed middle ring, and a platinum religious-themed center.
Estimate: \$400-\$600



31078 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof "70th Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's Birth" 5 Pounds 1996-PM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM354b, Fr-51. Estimated mintage: 850. Struck for Elizabeth II's 70th birthday, this elusive example is one of two seen by NGC. AGW 1.1743 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31079 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof "British-Sterling 250th Anniversary" 100 Pounds 1975 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM91. Mintage: 750. Celebrating the 250th anniversary of the introduction of the British pound sterling, this wonderful example displays exceptionally struck motifs atop subdued reflectivity in the fields. AGW 0.9169 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

GREAT BRITAIN



31080 Elizabeth II gold Proof 5 Pounds 1980 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM924, Fr-419. Mintage: 10,000. Second crowned portrait of Queen Elizabeth. A fine and flashy specimen. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31081 Elizabeth II gold Proof 5 Pounds 1984 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM924, Fr-419. A classic 5 pound design featuring Elizabeth II, boasting a sharp cameo contrast and deeply mirrored fields that invite close inspection and adoration. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31082 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Sovereign Anniversary" 5 Pounds 1989 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM958, Fr-432. Estimated mintage: 5,000. Depicting a crowned Elizabeth II with scepters sitting atop her throne and a crowned shield over a Tudor rose, this specimen commemorates the 500th anniversary of the quintessential gold sovereign. A popular and visually appealing issue. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31083 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Queen Mother" 5 Pounds 1990 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM962b, Fr-436. Mintage: 2,500. This Queen Mother example features a thistle and rose reverse, slate black fields, and only faint hairlines surrounding Elizabeth's portrait. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31086 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Birth of Elizabeth II" 5 Pounds 1996 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM974b, Fr-442. Estimated mintage: 2,750. Struck to celebrate Elizabeth II's 70th birthday, this flashy piece presents deeply reflective fields that highlight five perfectly struck, waving flags. An attractive Proof issue with only 11 graded higher at NGC. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31084 Elizabeth II gold Proof 5 Pounds 1992 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM945, Fr-422. Mintage: 1,250. A scarce Proof issue that depicts the third crowned portrait of Elizabeth II, facing right, over deeply mirrored fields that show a delicate haze and minor imperfections. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31087 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Royal Wedding Anniversary" 5 Pounds 1997 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM977b, Fr-451. Estimated mintage: 2,750. Celebrating Elizabeth II and Philip's 50th wedding anniversary, this issue features a well-rendered double-portrait and reverse that is stylistically successful. A nearly pristine piece with alluring eye appeal. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31085 Elizabeth II gold Proof "40th Anniversary of Reign" 5 Pounds 1993 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM965b, Fr-438. Estimated mintage: 2,500. This Ruby Jubilee commemorative boasts the young portrait of Elizabeth II at center with eight horseman surrounding, and a crown flanked by 40 trumpets. A popular, near-perfect specimen. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31088 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Birth of Prince Charles" 5 Pounds 1998 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM995b, Fr-443a. Mintage: 773. An exquisitely defined portrait of Elizabeth II dons this pristine, commemorative piece honoring the 50th birthday of Prince Charles. AGW 1.1771 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31089 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Millennium" 5 Pounds 1999 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM1006b, Fr-445a. Mintage: 2,500. Celebrating the new millennium, this issue features a clock at midnight against a cartographic depicting of the United Kingdom. Even, canary-gold devices are highlighted by the deep, watery fields. AGW 1.1775 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31090 Elizabeth II gold Proof "100th Anniversary of Queen Victoria's Death" 5 Pounds 2001 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM1015b, Fr-455d. Mintage: 1,000. This specimen was made for the centennial of Queen Victoria's death and depicts her young-head portrait facing left, with frosted industrial motifs over deeply mirrored surfaces. AGW 1.1771 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31091 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Queen Mother" 5 Pounds ND (2002) PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM1035b, Fr-456b. Mintage: 2,086. Commemorating the passing of the Queen Mother with a portrait by sculptor Avril Vaughan, this popular piece boasts lovely watery fields and pleasing rose-gold devices. AGW 1.1771 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31092 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Queen Mother" 5 Pounds ND (2002) PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM1035b, Fr-456b. Mintage: 2,086. Nearly flawless, this Queen Mother commemorative boasts reflective fields that show minute instances of haze and residue. AGW 1.1771 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31093 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Queen Mother" 5 Pounds ND (2002) PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM1035b, Fr-456b. Mintage: 2,086. Jet-black fields pronounce the frosted dual portraits of Elizabeth and the Queen Mother on this near-pristine specimen that marks the passing of the Queen Mother herself. AGW 1.1771 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31094 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Queen's Golden Jubilee" 5 Pounds 2003 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM1038b, Fr-469. Mintage: 1,896. The stylized profile portrait of Elizabeth II on this Golden Jubilee issue exhibits superb, satiny frost; an example nearly without issue. AGW 1.1770 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

GREECE



31095 Constantine II gold “1967 Revolution” 100 Drachmai ND (1970) MS68+ NGC, KM95, Fr-21. Mintage: 10,000. A stunning and crisp issue memorializing the 1967 Revolution that installed a conservative Junta government. This virtually flawless specimen is the sole second finest at both grading companies, with a single representative finer. Accompanied by a UBS auction tag. AGW 0.9334 oz.

Ex. UBS Gold & Numismatics Auction 55 (September 2002, Lot 3531)

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

GUERNSEY



31096 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “100th Anniversary of Victoria’s Death” 5 Pounds 2001 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM106b, Fr-30. Mintage: 300. A scarce issue, struck to commemorate the centennial of Victoria’s death. Presently the only example certified by NGC in this perfect quality, with deeply mirrored fields and frosted portraits, this offering is wholly deserving of its Ultra Cameo status. AGW 1.1775 oz.

Estimate: \$1,600-\$1,800



31097 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Monarchy Centennial” 5 Pounds 2001 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM114b, Fr-31. Mintage: 200. Struck to commemorate British monarchs of the 19th century and including portraits of George III, George IV, William IV, and Victoria. Between the three seen by NGC and PCGS, this is the second finest. AGW 1.770 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31098 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Princess Diana” 5 Pounds 2002 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM122b, Fr-39. Mintage: 100. Commemorating the 5th anniversary of Princess Diana’s passing, this example raises awareness for her many philanthropic endeavors through the inscription “The Work Continues.” This special issue is the sole finest of five pieces seen by NGC and PCGS to date. AGW 1.1771 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31099 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Normandy Invasion 50th Anniversary” 100 Pounds 1994 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM603. Estimated mintage: 500. The 50th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy is memorialized on this near-perfect specimen, which displays flawless surfaces apart from a few minute imperfections towards the peripheries of the obverse. AGW 1.0024 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31100 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “50th Anniversary of Liberation” 100 Pounds 1995 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM65, Fr-7. Celebrating the 50th anniversary of liberation, this specimen boasts jet-black fields and a beautifully rendered portrait of Elizabeth II. Currently the only example represented at NGC. AGW 1.0024 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

GUINEA



31101 Republic gold Proof “Ahmed Sékou Touré” 10000 Francs 1969 PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM20, Fr-1. Mintage: 2,300. #658. Celebrating the 10th anniversary of Guinean independence from France, this piece displays a bold portrait of the country’s first president, Ahmed Sékou Touré, who ruled until his death in 1984. AGW 1.1574 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

HAITI



31102 Republic gold Proof “Santo Domingo Revolt” 200 Gourdes 1967-IC PR65 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM70, Fr-2. Total estimated mintage over 4 years: 4,199. A sharp example with watery, reflective fields and stark, cameo devices. AGW 1.1426 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31103 Republic gold Proof “Santo Domingo Revolt” 200 Gourdes 1971-IC PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM99, Fr-11. Mintage: 235. This scarce Santo Domingo Revolt issue features a more visually stunning obverse than earlier examples, its statuesque figure blowing a conch set against palms in the deeply mirrored background. AGW 1.1426 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31104 Republic gold Proof “King Henri Christophe” 250 Gourdes 1969-IC PR65 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM75, Fr-7. Mintage: 470, split between 1969 and 1970. A scarce, pale-gold specimen of this two-year issue in the independence series, displaying a pleasing cameo contrast. AGW 1.4284 oz.
Estimate: \$2,000-\$2,500



31105 Republic gold Proof “Haitian Art” 500 Gourdes 1969-IC PR65 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM76, Fr-6. Mintage: 435, split between 1969 and 1970. #180. This pale-gold specimen displays three Haitian artists in high relief for this independence series issue, exhibiting scattered surface hairlines and some friction to the frosted central motifs. AGW 2.8568 oz.
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



31106 Republic gold Proof “Dr. Francois Duvalier” 1000 Gourdes 1967-IC PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM71, Fr-1. Estimated mintage: 2,950, split between four years of issue. #702. A behemoth of a modern commemorative issue, struck to celebrate President Duvalier’s 60th birthday. AGW 5.7140 oz.
Estimate: \$5,000-\$7,000



31108 Republic gold Proof “Ignaz Semmelweis” 500 Forint 1968-BP PR65 Ultra Cameo NGC, Budapest mint, KM587, Fr-623. Mintage: 9,000. This issue was struck to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Ignaz Semmelweis, an early proponent of antiseptic procedures, whose ideas of hand washing in medical environments led to substantial declines in infant mortality. AGW 1.2168 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

HUNGARY



31107 Republic gold Proof 500 Forint 1961-BP PR62 NGC, Budapest mint, KM565, Fr-614. Struck to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the birth of Béla Bartók, notable Hungarian composer, conveying lightly reflective surfaces. AGW 1.2166 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31109 Republic gold Proof “Ignaz Semmelweis” 1000 Forint 1968-BP PR63 Ultra Cameo NGC, Budapest mint, KM588, Fr-622. Mintage: 7,000. Struck to memorialize the contributions of Dr. Ignaz Semmelweis to the medical field and commemorate the 150th anniversary of his birth, this large issue highlights his bust with highly reflective fields and frosted central motifs. AGW 2.4336 oz.
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000

ISLE OF MAN



31110 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Christmas” 50 Pence 1996-PM PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM694b, Fr-B71. Estimated mintage: 250. Flawless in every regard, this commemorative Christmas issue displays deeply mirrored fields and satiny frosted devices. This is the sole finest at NGC and PCGS. AGW 0.7665 oz.
Estimate: \$600-\$800



31111 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Acquisition Bicentennial” 5 Pounds 1965 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM17a, Fr-1. Mintage: 500. Celebrating the bicentennial of the Act of Revestment, where the feudal rights of the Dukes of Atholl were purchased by the British Crown, this issue features an attractive reverse depicting a fully rendered and centered triskelion on a shield. Two finer specimens are noted by PCGS.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31112 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof 5 Pounds 1974-PM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM29, Fr-4. Mintage: 2,500. A collectible gold issue on the cusp of perfection. AGW 1.1738 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31113 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof Angel 1987-PM PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM141, Fr-B15. AGW 1.0003 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31114 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof "Millennium of Tynwald" Crown 1979-PM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM46b, Fr-11. Mintage: 300. Displaying a Viking at the helm of a longship, this specimen commemorates the 1,000th anniversary of what the island considers to be the "oldest, continuous parliament" in the world. This example is presently the only one to be seen by NGC. AGW 1.2677 oz.

Estimate: \$1,500-\$1,700



31115 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof "Prince Charles & Lady Diana Wedding" Crown 1981 PM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM-Unl, Fr-21. Made to commemorate the Royal Wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana, this piece was initially issued in a 4-piece Proof set. This is the sole example seen by NGC and displays wonderfully struck features.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31116 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof "Cat Series - Persian" Crown 1989-PM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM250b, Fr-B50. Depicting a stately Persian cat and a regal bust of Elizabeth II, this specimen is bested by only one other at NGC and displays alluring, fully reflective fields. AGW 0.9988 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31117 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof "Cat Series - New York Alley Cat" Crown 1990-PM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM275b, Fr-B50. A virtually flawless piece in the cat series issued by the Isle of Man, depicting a recumbent cat with seagull in the distance, highlighted by mirrored fields and struck with a beautiful cameo portrait. AGW 0.9988 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31118 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof "Year of the Horse" Crown 2002-PM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM1103, Fr-B61. Mintage: 2,000. A lovely Proof issue depicting two galloping horses within frosted legends. This piece displays a few minute spots to the otherwise flawless fields. AGW 0.9998 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

IVORY COAST



31119 Republic gold Proof 100 Francs 1966 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM5, Fr-1. Mintage: 2,000. This specimen displays an obverse depicting a satiny frosted portrait of Félix Houphouët Boigny, the first president of Côte d'Ivoire, and a reverse with a stately elephant, a symbol of the new republic for which it was originally named by the colonizing Europeans. A pleasing yellow-gold example with jet-black fields. AGW 0.9259 oz.

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

JAMAICA



31120 Elizabeth II gold Proof “10th Anniversary of the Investiture of Prince Charles” 250 Dollars 1979 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM83, Fr-11. Mintage: 1,650. Struck to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the investiture of Charles, Prince of Wales, this issue displays a stately portrait of Charles with royal regalia. AGW 1.2505 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

JERSEY



31121 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Princess Diana - The Work Continues” 5 Pounds 2002 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM111b, Fr-40. Mintage: 100. Tied for the finest with one other at NGC, this extraordinary and scarce modern issue features a portrait of Lady Diana and was meant to commemorate her charitable works. AGW 1.1771 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31122 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Battle of Britain 50th Anniversary” 100 Pounds 1990 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM82, Fr-22. Estimated mintage: 500. A commemorative issue celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, boasting a depiction of a Spitfire aircraft superimposed over the United Kingdom. A brilliant specimen held back by minor copper spots to the rim. AGW 1.0024 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31123 British Dependency. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Liberation” 100 Pounds 1995 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM96, Fr-33. Mintage: 500. A virtually flawless commemorative specimen struck for the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the German-occupied Channel Islands, specifically Jersey, presently tied with two others for the finest at NGC. AGW 1.0024 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

KENYA



31124 Republic gold “President Jomo Kenyatta - 75th Anniversary of Birth” 500 Shillings 1966 MS66 NGC, KM9, Fr-1. This brilliant and semi-Prooflike example boasts a depiction of Mount Kenya, Africa’s second highest mountain, and a stately bust of Jomo Kenyatta, Kenya’s first president after gaining independence from the British. Scattered hairlines hold this specimen back from attaining a higher designation. AGW 1.1203 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

KIRIBATI



31125 Republic gold Proof “Christmas Island” 200 Dollars 2000 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Valcambi mint, KM-A35, Fr-13. Mintage: 200. A nearly flawless Proof that shows perfect contrast between the devices and the fields. AGW 0.999 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



LESOTHO



31126 Moshoeshoe II gold Proof “Year of the Child” 250 Maloti 1979 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM26, Fr-15. Mintage: 2,000. Struck to commemorate UNESCO’s proclamation of 1979 as the “Year of the Child,” this nearly unblemished issue depicts a triple portrait of Bosotho children and is tied for the finest at NGC and PCGS. AGW 1.0003 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31127 Moshoeshoe II gold Proof “Death of Moshoeshoe I” 500 Maloti 1980 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM29, Fr-16. Mintage: 3,000. A nearly perfect representative honoring the 110th anniversary of the death of King Moshoeshoe I, the reverse depicting an ear of corn, a diamond, and an alligator. This piece is tied for the finest at NGC and PCGS with three others. AGW 1.0003 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

LIBERIA



31128 Republic gold Proof “Cairo Conference - World War II” 250 Dollars (1/2 oz) 1995-PM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pobjoy mint, KM-Unl. This issue commemorates the Cairo Conference between Churchill, Roosevelt, and Chiang Kai-Shek and exhibits jet-black fields and slightly subdued frost to the portraits; tied for the finest at NGC.

Estimate: \$600-\$800

LIECHTENSTEIN



31129 Johann II gold Proof Restrike Taler 1862 A-M PR62 NGC, KM-Y1a. A near-choice and incredibly crisp modern Proof on matte-like surfaces. AGW 0.8536 oz.

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,200



31130 Franz Joseph II gold 100 Franken 1952 MS62 NGC, KM-Y17, Fr-19. Mintage: 4,000. A superb honey to amber gold patina envelops this large issue. AGW 0.9334 oz.

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

LUXEMBOURG



31131 Charlotte gold Essai “Luxembourg Millennium” 250 Francs 1963 MS67 NGC, KM-E71. Mintage: 200. Issued for the 1,000th anniversary of the state, this beautiful specimen finds itself as the sole finest seen by NGC.

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

MALAWI



31132 Republic gold “Nyala” 250 Kwacha 1978 MS68 NGC, KM17, Fr-2. Mintage: 566. A pale-gold representative of this conservation series issue depicting a nyala, a spiral-horned antelope native to the country. Tied for the finest with 9 others at both grading services. AGW 0.9675.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,200

MAURITIUS



31135 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Flycatcher” 1000 Rupees 1975 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM42, Fr-2. Mintage: 716. Only two examples finer noted by NGC, this issue features a Mascarene paradise flycatcher, endemic to Mauritius. This example has highly frosted motifs, which highlight the importance of the birds to the island, and is a nearly flawless specimen. AGW 0.9675 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

MALI



31133 Republic gold Proof “Anniversary of Independence” 100 Francs 1967 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM8, Fr-1. Depicting President Modibo Keita, the first elected president of the newly independent Republic of Mali, this handsome specimen is tied for second-finest among those at NGC. The well-rendered motifs to both sides show minute imperfections on this accurately graded example. AGW 0.9259 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

MEXICO



31136 Estados Unidos gold “Native Culture - Jaguar” 1000 Pesos 1992-Mo MS69 NGC, Mexico City mint, KM560, Fr-191. Mintage: 19,850. Satiny and lustrous, this Jaguar commemorative is virtually flawless with the exception of scattered copper spots. Altogether, a pleasing yellow-gold example. AGW 0.999 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

MALTA



31134 Republic gold “Neptune” 50 Pounds 1972 MS68 NGC, KM18, Fr-48. Mintage: 16,000. A brilliant specimen with scant hair-lines to the practically flawless surfaces, depicting Neptune and the Maltese coat of arms with dolphins. Tied for the finest at both NGC and PCGS. AGW 0.8844 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,200

MONACO



31137 Rainier III gold Essai “25th Anniversary of Reign” 50 Francs 1974-(a) MS64 NGC, Paris mint, KM-E67, Fr-32a. A scarce gold Pattern of the 50 francs Essai type, commemorating the 25th anniversary of Rainier III’s reign. Reflective and flashy, expressing even yellow-gold surfaces. AGW 1.5079 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31138 Rainier III gold “10th Wedding Anniversary” 200 Francs 1966-(a) MS68 NGC, Paris mint, KM-XM2, Fr-32. Mintage: 5,000. Celebrating the 10th wedding anniversary of Rainier III and Grace Kelly, this captivating issue is imbued with full cartwheel luster and reflective fields. AGW 0.9465 oz.
Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400



31139 Rainier III gold Proof “10th Wedding Anniversary” 200 Francs 1966-(a) PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, Paris mint, KM-XM2, Fr-32. Mintage: 1,000. A fine commemorative struck to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Rainier III and Grace Kelly’s wedding. A gem of a Proof, held back only by scant hairlines. AGW 0.9465 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

NAMIBIA



31140 Republic gold Proof Colorized “5th Anniversary of Independence - Desert” 100 Dollars 1995 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM-A8, Fr-2. Mintage: 500. This modern commemorative celebrates the 5th anniversary of independence from South Africa following their war for independence and features a colorized landscape of the Namib Desert. The coat of arms to the reverse is successfully executed and displays jet-black fields. AGW 0.9998 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

NEW ZEALAND



31141 Elizabeth II gold Proof “Ruby Jubilee” 5 Dollars 1993 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM88b, Fr-1a. Mintage: 210. An inviting gem with only two finer at NGC, this issue was struck to commemorate Elizabeth’s Ruby Jubilee , or 40th anniversary of coronation. AGW 1.4011 oz.
Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000

NIGER



31142 Republic gold Proof “Independence” 50 Francs 1968 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM10, Fr-6. Mintage: 1,000. The finest out of 14 at NGC, this representative displays strong yellow-gold hues and a wonderful strike against the heavily mirrored surfaces. AGW 0.4630 oz.
Estimate: \$400-\$600



31143 Republic gold Proof “Independence” 100 Francs 1960 PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM4, Fr-1. Mintage: 1,000. This representative was struck to commemorate the independence of Niger from France and French West Africa and features a bold, high-relief portrait of Hamani Diori, the first president of the Republic. AGW 0.9259 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31144 Republic gold Proof “Independence” 100 Francs 1968 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM11, Fr-5. Mintage: 1,000. Struck to commemorate Niger’s independence from France in 1960, this piece bears the country’s coat of arms and a well-executed portrait of the first president, Hamani Diori. Displaying minor haziness to the fields, this coin is fully deserving of its assigned grade. AGW 0.9259 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31145 Republic gold Proof “Independence” 100 Francs 1968 PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM11, Fr-5. Mintage: 1,000. This pleasing issue exhibits symbols synonymous with Niger, including the head of a zibu, two crossed Tuareg swords, and a sun. The fields are exceptionally flashy but display scattered hairlines and a few minor nicks throughout. AGW 0.9259 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

PANAMA



31146 Republic gold Proof “Vasco Núñez de Balboa” 500 Balboas 1976-FM PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, Franklin mint, KM42, Fr-2. Mintage: 2,669. This piece was struck to commemorate the 500th anniversary of his birth and highlights a noble portrait of the explorer Vasco Núñez de Balboa, for which this denomination is named. AGW 1.2066 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31147 Republic gold Proof “OAS 30th Anniversary” 500 Balboas 1978-FM PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, Franklin mint, KM57, Fr-4. Mintage: 2,009. Featuring frosted North and South American continents, this large issue celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Organization of American States. AGW 1.2066 oz. Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31148 Republic gold “Golden Jaguar” 500 Balboas 1979-FM PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, Franklin mint, KM62, Fr-7. Mintage: 1,657. A brilliant example featuring a bold, heavily frosted portrait of a Jaguar, exhibiting wonderful flash throughout the deeply mirrored planchet. AGW 1.2066 oz. Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

PARAGUAY



31149 Republic gold Proof “Alfredo Stroessner” 70000 Guaranies 1983 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM168, Fr-25. Mintage: 300. Celebrating Stroessner’s 6th term as president, this large issue is on the cusp of perfection and is the single-finest example certified by either grading company. AGW 1.3310 oz. Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31150 Republic gold Proof “Alfredo Stroessner” 300000 Guaranies 1988 PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM174, Fr-26. Estimated mintage: 500, with 250 pieces remelted. This large issue celebrating the 8th term of President Alfredo Stroessner features his stately, frosted bust over lightly hairlined, jet-black fields. AGW 1.3561 oz. Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

PORTUGAL



31151 Republic gold Proof “Diogo Cão” 100 Escudos 1987-INCM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM641b, Fr-160. Mintage: 5,387. A commemorative issue celebrating the golden age of Portuguese discoveries, specifically the famed explorer Diogo Cão, who was the first European to navigate the West African coast near Gabon. AGW 0.7075 oz. Estimate: \$600-\$800



31152 Republic gold Proof “Discovery of Madeira” 100 Escudos 1989-INCM PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM647b, Fr-163. Mintage: 2,996. Denoting the discovery of the archipelago of Madeira, this commemorative issue features the Santa Maria at full sail. AGW 0.7075 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800



31153 Republic gold Proof “Discovery of the Azores” 100 Escudos 1989-INCM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM648b, Fr-164. Mintage: 5,495. The watery fields support a frosted sailing vessel on this commemorative issue celebrating the 550th anniversary of Portugal’s discovery and settlement of the Azores. AGW 0.7075 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800



31154 Republic gold Proof “Espingarda” 200 Escudos 1993-INCM PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM666b, Fr-171. Mintage: 7,000. Commemorating the Portuguese introduction of espingarda to the Japanese in the 16th century, this coin aptly depicts a cavalry rifleman with a flawless strike and fresh surfaces. AGW 0.8019 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



31155 Republic gold Proof “Arte Namban” 200 Escudos 1993-INCM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM668b, Fr-173. Mintage: 7,000. This issue depicts figures artistically rendered in the Japanese Nanban style that was heavily influenced by centuries of contact with Europeans, primarily Portuguese traders. A visually interesting piece with watery fields. AGW 0.8019 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



31156 Republic gold Proof “Enviados Daimios Kiushu” 200 Escudos 1993-INCM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM667b, Fr-172. Mintage: 7,000. Struck to commemorate an early Japanese mission to Europe, this interesting issue depicts the four Jesuit noble children that took part in the 8-year journey. AGW 0.8019 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



31157 Republic gold Proof “Tanegashima” 200 Escudos 1993-INCM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM665b, Fr-170. Celebrating the 450th anniversary of Portuguese contact with Japan, this issue displays a wonderfully frosted ship sighting Tanegashima in 1543. AGW 0.8019 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



31158 Republic gold Proof “Dividing up the World” 200 Escudos 1994-INCM PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM672b, Fr-176. Mintage: 3,000. Celebrating Portugal’s navigation and exploration endeavors, this pristine representative boasts depictions of South America and Africa, where early navigators traveled. AGW 0.8019 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



31159 Republic gold Proof “Solor & Timor Islands” 200 Escudos 1995-INCM PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM683b, Fr-180. Mintage: 4,000. This issue was struck to commemorate the Portuguese discovery of the islands Solor and Timor in 1515. A handsome piece with stark contrasts. AGW 0.8019 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



31160 Republic gold Proof “Discovery of India” 200 Escudos 1998-INCM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM712b, Fr-193. Mintage: 5,000. An issue struck for the 500th anniversary of Portugal’s exploration of India, exhibiting a coastal map of India against Vasco da Gama’s ship on a virtually flawless planchet. AGW 0.8016 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000



31161 Republic gold Proof “Brazil - Ship” 200 Escudos 1999-INCM PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM718b, Fr-196. Mintage: 1,000. Struck on the cusp of the 500th anniversary of Portugal’s claim on Brazil, this piece exhibits native tribesmen and a Portuguese sailing vessel. AGW 0.8016 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,000

RHODESIA



31162 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof 5 Pounds 1966 PR67 NGC, KM7, Fr-1. Mintage: 3,000. Tied with five others for finest at NGC and with no others certified by PCGS, this one-year type exhibits flashy golden fields with subdued mint brilliance. AGW 1.1762 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,800

RWANDA



31163 Republic gold Proof “4th Anniversary of Independence” 100 Francs 1965 PR68 Cameo NGC, KM4, Fr-1. Mintage: 3,000. Commemorating the 4th anniversary of Rwanda’s independence from Belgium during the Pan-African era, this alluring example features the subtly frosted portrait of the country’s first elected president, Grégoire Kayibanda. AGW 0.8681 oz.

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

SAINT HELENA



31164 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Queen Elizabeth - The Queen Mother” 50 Pence 1995 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM14b, Fr-3. Mintage: 150. This commemorative piece honors Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, and depicts her in a pleasing equestrian vignette. Tied for the finest at NGC with one other. AGW 1.400 oz.

Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000



31165 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Queen Mother” 50 Pence 2000 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM22b, Fr-4. Mintage: 100. Celebrating the centenary of the Queen Mother’s birth, this issue is tied for finest among one other at NGC and displays intricately engraved portraits over a large and reflective planchet. AGW 1.401 oz.

Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000



31166 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Centennial of Victoria’s Death” 50 Pence 2001 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM20b, Fr-6. Mintage: 100. A scarce issue that marks the 100th anniversary of Queen Victoria’s death and memorializes her with a nautical vignette. This piece is the only one to have been certified by either grading service. AGW 1.401 oz.

Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000



31167 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Golden Jubilee” 50 Pence 2003 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM31b, Fr-8. Mintage: 50. This elusive and virtually flawless specimen is the only example seen by either NGC or PCGS, and was struck to commemorate the Queen’s Golden Jubilee. AGW 1.177 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600

SAN MARINO



31168 Republic gold “Liberty” 10 Scudi 1978 MS67 NGC, Rome mint, KM88, Fr-13. A brilliant specimen with abounding luster. AGW 0.8845 oz.

Estimate: \$800-\$1,200

SENEGAL



31169 Republic gold Proof “8th Anniversary of Independence” 100 Francs 1968 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM4, Fr-1. Flashy and reflective, the obverse features a bold rendering of the heraldic Senegalese coat of arms depicting a lion and baobab tree on this generally problem-free commemorative issue. AGW 0.9259 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



SEYCHELLES



31170 Republic gold Proof “Flycatcher” 1500 Rupees 1978 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM41, Fr-2. Mintage: 201. A spectacular example in the conservation series that exhibits various wildlife synonymous with Seychelles. The coin itself is pristine, excelling in both strike and surface. AGW 0.9675 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

SIERRA LEONE



31171 Republic gold Proof “5th Anniversary of Independence” Golde 1966 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM24a, Fr-1. Mintage: 400. An interesting issue celebrating the 5th anniversary of independence from British rule, displaying the frosted portrait of a ferocious lion with stark cameo contrasts and a reverse that bears the map of the new Republic. This specimen is tied with one other for the finest submitted to NGC. AGW 1.7669 oz.

Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000

SOLOMON ISLANDS



31172 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Pearl Harbor” 100 Dollars 1991 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM34, Fr-7. Estimated mintage: 500. Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, this example displays vivid imagery not uncommon to the Solomon Islands themselves during the Second World War. This piece is tied for the finest with six others found in the NGC census. AGW 1.0024 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31173 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Battle of Guadalcanal” 100 Dollars 1992 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM45, Fr-15. Estimated mintage: 500. An example from this popular Second World War 50th anniversary series, this piece boasts deeply mirrored fields, a frosted maritime vignette, and scant copper spots to the rim, which are commonly associated with this issue. AGW 1.0024 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31174 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “Battle of the Coral Sea” 100 Dollars 1992 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM39, Fr-11. Estimate mintage: 500. A fitting issue in the Second World War series, this piece memorializes the 50th anniversary of the historic Battle of the Coral Sea, taking place between Australia, New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands. This coin incorporates the façade of an aircraft carrier, commemorating the first time aircraft carriers of opposing nations engaged each other. Technically near perfect and tied for finest among four others registered at NGC. AGW 1.0024 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31175 British Colony. Elizabeth II gold Proof “50th Anniversary of the End of WWII” 100 Dollars 1995 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM58, Fr-20. Estimated Mintage: 500. Depicting the Enola Gay B-29 bomber against a mushroom cloud, this specimen was struck to commemorate the conclusion of the Second World War, specifically in the Pacific theater. As the sole entry at NGC, this representative exhibits nearly flawless surfaces and a few minute imperfections, noted for the sake of accuracy. AGW 1.0024 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

SOUTH AFRICA



31176 Republic gold Proof “75th Parliament Anniversary” Ounce 1985 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pretoria mint, KM118, Fr-13. Mintage: 3,019. Struck to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Parliament and depicting a lovely, frosted architectural scene. AGW 1.0003 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31177 Republic gold Proof “Tourism” Protea 2001 PR70 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pretoria mint, KM263, Fr-B21. Mintage: 972. Paying tribute to the South African tourism industry, this Protea issue depicts a child enjoying the beach against perfectly rendered waves in the background. This coin is tied for the finest with three others populating the NGC census. AGW 1.0000 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31178 Republic gold Proof “Gemsbok” Ounce 2001 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pretoria mint, KM267, Fr-B10. Mintage: 3,104. This Natura issue depicts the gemsbok, a large antelope native to South Africa, known for its long, straight horns. While not as rare as others from this series, this example is visually stunning and shows only 4 coins finer at NGC. AGW 1.0000 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31179 Republic gold Proof “Protea - Soccer” 25 Rand 2002 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pretoria mint, KM279, Fr-B21. Mintage: 137. This specimen was minted to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the founding of South Africa’s national soccer team, Bafana Bafana. This popular issue depicts the national flower, the king protea, and two dueling soccer players. AGW 1.0000 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31180 Republic gold Proof “Cheetah” 100 Rand 2002 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Pretoria mint, KM413, Fr-B10. Mintage: 2,550. A fully defined cheetah populates both sides of this collectible issue, with nearly flawless and concave surfaces. Tied for the second finest with 28 others, and only two finer in the NGC population report. AGW 1.0000 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



SPAIN



31181 Juan Carlos I gold Proof “Charles V” 40000 Pesetas 2000-M PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Madrid mint, KM-Unl, Fr-396. Mintage: 4,000. This specimen was struck to celebrate the quincentenary of Charles V. Engraved with his regal portrait and the “pillar dollar” reverse, this is the sole example seen at NGC and PCGS. AGW 0.4978 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800



31182 Juan Carlos I gold Proof “House of Borbón - Ferdinand VI” 80000 Pesetas 1997-M PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, Madrid mint, KM1028, Fr-390. Mintage: 1,248. Celebrating three centuries of the House of Borbón, from Ferdinand VI to Juan Carlos I, this issue depicts a frosted classical portrait of the former with coat of arms. Currently the finest of two submitted to NGC, the other a PR66. AGW 0.8672 oz.

Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,200

SWAZILAND



31183 Sobhuza II gold Proof “UNICEF” 20 Emalangenis 1974 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM19, Fr-3. This unusual decagonal UNICEF issue features a portrait of Sobhuza II and was struck to commemorate the 75th anniversary of his birth. A few scattered hairlines on the obverse limit the grade of this otherwise handsome example, which is tied for second finest at NGC and PCGS. AGW 0.6432 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800



31184 Sobhuza II gold Proof “75th Anniversary” 25 Emalangenis 1974 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM20, Fr-2. #549. Struck to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the birth of Sobhuza II, this virtually flawless specimen is the finest of five seen by NGC or PCGS. AGW 0.8038 oz.

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

TANZANIA



31185 Republic gold Proof “Cheetahs” 1500 Shilingi 1974 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM9, Fr-1. Mintage: 866. A beautiful specimen with even, yellow-gold motifs and exceptional strike sharpness. AGW 0.9675 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31186 Republic gold Proof “Cheetahs” 1500 Shilingi 1974 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM9, Fr-1. Mintage: 866. Exhibiting the right balance of frosted devices and jet-black fields, this scarce modern issue is successfully executed, bearing a few minute areas of haze to the reverse. AGW 0.9675 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

TONGA



31187 Queen Salote gold 1/2 Koula 1962 MS66 NGC, KM2, Fr-2. Mintage: 3,000. The obverse, with a standing Queen Salote Tudou III, displays a hint of amber toner to otherwise even pale-gold surfaces. Tied for the second finest at NGC with two others. AGW 0.4785 oz.

Estimate: \$400-\$600



31188 Queen Salote gold Koula 1962 MS67 NGC, KM3, Fr-1. Mintage: 1,500. Depicting a solemn representation of Queen Salote Tupou III opposite the Tongan coat of arms, this piece finds itself second only to one other at NGC. AGW 0.9571 oz.

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

TRISTAN DA CUNHA



31189 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Queen Mother 100th Anniversary of Birth" 50 Pence 2000 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM10b, Fr-4. Mintage: 100. A scarce and precious commemorative issue struck for the 100th anniversary of the Queen Mother's birth, exhibiting deeply mirrored fields against frosted portraits of the Queen Mother and Elizabeth II. The lone example seen by NGC or PCGS. AGW 1.401 oz.

Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000



31190 Elizabeth II gold Proof "Centennial of Queen Victoria's Death" 50 Pence 2001 PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM13b, Fr-6. Mintage: 100. This scarce modern issue boasts jet-black fields and a frosted portrait of Queen Victoria, marking the centenary of her death. Only one other has been submitted to either grading service, this being the superior example by 2 full grade points. AGW 1.401 oz.

Estimate: \$1,800-\$2,000



TUNISIA



31191 Republic gold Proof “10th Anniversary” 20 Dinars 1967-NI PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM289, Fr-20. Mintage: 3,536. Struck to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Republic after declaring independence from France, this specimen displays the stoic bust of first president, Habib Bourguiba. The reverse features one of the newly formed country’s most historic cultural sites, the minaret at the Great Mosque of Kairouan, built in 836 and considered the oldest minaret still standing. AGW 1.0995 oz.

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500



31192 Republic gold Proof “10th Anniversary” 40 Dinars 1967-NI PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM290, Fr-19. Mintage: 3,031. #2535. Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Republic, this large denomination boasts wonderfully reflective surfaces that highlight the minaret of the Great Mosque of Kairouan, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Tied for second finest with two others, bested by only one other at NGC. AGW 2.1990 oz.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



31193 Republic gold Proof “10th Anniversary” 40 Dinars 1967-NI PR65 Ultra Cameo NGC, Numismatica Italiana mint, KM290, Fr-19. Mintage: 3,031. #2089. A handsome specimen depicting the stately bust of Tunisia’s first president, Habib Bourguiba, highlighted by the deeply mirrored field. AGW 2.1990 oz.

Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000

TURKEY



31194 Republic gold “Monnaie de Luxe” 500 Kurush 1964 MS65 NGC, Istanbul mint, KM874, Fr-208. Mintage: 2,787. Monnaie de Luxe issue. A lovely gem with intricate and ornate floral wreath borders centering a bust of Kemal Atatürk over semi-Prooflike surfaces. The sole finest among 10 others seen by both NGC and PCGS. AGW 1.0342 oz.
Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

UGANDA



31195 Republic gold Proof “Pope Paul VI Visit” 500 Shillings 1969 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM16, Fr-2. Mintage: 1,680, split between 1969 and 1970. Featuring a pious portrait of Pope Paul VI against a globe containing his previous Papal visits, this Ugandan high-denomination issue exhibits jet-black surfaces with only minute evidence of friction, establishing the piece in the assigned grade. AGW 1.9999 oz.
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



31196 Republic gold Proof “Pope Paul VI Visit” 1000 Shillings 1969 PR67 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM17, Fr-1. Mintage: 1,390, split between 1969 and 1970. #157. A spectacular Proof specimen of this large issue, imbued with brilliant surfaces, and struck to celebrate the visit of Pope Paul VI to the capital city of Uganda, Kampala. AGW 3.999 oz.

Estimate: \$4,000-\$6,000

URUGUAY



31197 Republic gold Proof Pattern “Hydroelectric Dam” 100 Nuevos Pesos 1981-So PR62 Ultra Cameo NGC, Santiago mint, KM-PnA114. Featuring a hydroelectric dam amidst watery fields, this scarce gold commemorative issue exhibits an attractive yet hairlined surface. AGW 0.5787 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800



31198 Republic gold Proof “Central Bank - Gold” 5000 Nuevos Pesos 1987-So PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, Santiago mint, KM91a. The unusual design of frosted double snowflakes and wheels makes for a visually interesting example of this scarce piece, commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Banco Central de Uruguay. AGW 1.2373 oz.

Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31199 Republic gold Proof “Royal Visit” 20000 Nuevos Pesos 1983-So PR63 Ultra Cameo NGC, Santiago mint, KM132. Mintage: 1,500. Struck to celebrate the royal visit to Uruguay by the King and Queen of Spain. AGW 0.5787 oz.

Estimate: \$600-\$800

YUGOSLAVIA



31200 Republic gold Proof “Republic Anniversary” 500 Dinara 1968-NI PR69 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM53, Fr-8. Mintage: 10,000. Tied for the finest at NGC and PCGS with five others, this issue commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Socialist Federal Republic and depicts a stately emblem and figures with flags. A near-perfect specimen with silky texture and highly reflective fields. AGW 1.1313 oz.
Estimate: \$1,400-\$1,600



31201 Republic gold Proof “Republic 25th Anniversary” 1000 Dinara 1968-NI PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, Fr-6, KM54. Mintage: 10,000. #532. Commemorating the 25th anniversary of Yugoslavian independence with a stoic portrait of famed leader, Josip Broz Tito, and a bold, frosted state emblem on the reverse. A successful design for this specimen, which is tied for second in the NGC census. AGW 2.2627 oz.
Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



31202 Republic gold Proof “8th Mediterranean Games” 5000 Dinara 1978 PR68 Ultra Cameo NGC, KM75, Fr-10. Mintage: 12,000. Struck to celebrate the 8th Mediterranean Games, this coin boasts silky, frosted, yellow-gold motifs against deeply mirrored fields exhibiting scant hairlines. AGW 0.8536 oz.
Estimate: \$1,000-\$1,200

ZAMBIA



31204 Republic gold “African Wild Dog” 250 Kwacha 1979 MS68 NGC, British Royal mint, KM20, Fr-1. Mintage: 455. Pale-gold with highly reflective surfaces and deep mirrors, this conservation issue depicts the African wild dog, a species native to sub-Saharan African. AGW 0.9731 oz.
Estimate: \$800-\$1,200

ZAIRE



31203 Republic gold “Leopard” 100 Zaires 1975 MS67 NGC, KM11, Fr-1. Mintage: 1,415. A pale-gold representative in the popular conservation series, celebrating the leopard. AGW 0.9675 oz.
Estimate: \$800-\$1,200

End Of Auction

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Auction Venues:

3. Heritage Weekly Internet Auctions (Coin, Currency, Comics, Jewelry, and Vintage Movie Posters); Heritage Monthly Internet Auctions (Sports, World Coins, and Rare Wine) are conducted solely on the Internet. Signature Auctions accept bids from the Internet, telephone, fax, or mail first, followed by a floor bidding session; HeritageLive! and real-time telephone bidding are available to registered clients during these auctions.

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7. In order to place bids, Bidders who have not established credit with the Auctioneer must either furnish satisfactory credit information (including two collectible-related business references) or supply valid credit card information along with a social security number, well in advance of the Auction. Internet bids will only be accepted from pre-registered Bidders. Bidders who are not members of HA.com or affiliates should preregister at least 48 hours before the start of the first session (exclusive of holidays or weekends) to allow adequate time to contact references. Credit will be granted at the discretion of Auctioneer. Auctioneer may, in its sole discretion, require a deposit in good funds of twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount of each bid prior to acceptance of the bid. Additionally Bidders who have not previously established credit or who wish to bid in excess of their established credit history may be required to provide their social security so a credit check may be performed prior to Auctioneer's acceptance of a bid. Settlement via check and immediate delivery of merchandise may also be determined by pre-approval of credit based on a combination of: HA.com history, related industry references, bank verification, a credit bureau report and/or a personal guarantee for a corporate or partnership entity in advance of the auction.

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8. Bids in Signature Auctions may be placed as set forth in the printed catalog section entitled “Choose your bidding method.” For auctions held solely on the Internet, see the alternatives on HA.com. Review at <http://www.ha.com/c/ref/web-tips.xzfbiddingTutorial>.
9. Presentment of Bids: Non-Internet bids (including but not limited to podium, fax, phone and mail bids) and floor bids must be on-increment or at a half increment (“Cut Bid”). Any podium, fax, phone, or mail bids that do not conform to a full or half increment will be rounded up or down to the nearest full or half increment and this revised amount will be considered your high bid.
10. Auctioneer's Execution of Certain Bids. Auctioneer cannot be responsible for your errors in bidding or entry of bids. When identical mail or fax bids are submitted, preference is given to the first received. To ensure the greatest accuracy, written bids should be entered on the standard printed bid sheet and received by Auctioneer at least two business days prior to Auction start. Auctioneer is not responsible for executing mail bids or fax bids received on or after the day the first lot is sold, nor Internet bids submitted after the published closing time; nor is Auctioneer responsible for proper execution of bids submitted by telephone, mail, fax, email, Internet, or in person once Auction begins. Bids placed electronically via the internet may not be withdrawn until your written request is received and acknowledged by Auctioneer (FAX: 214-409-1425); such requests must state the reason, and may constitute grounds for withdrawal of bidding privileges. Lots won by mail Bidders will not be delivered at the Auction unless prearranged.
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Current Bid	Bid Increment	Current Bid	Bid Increment
< \$10	\$1	\$10,000 - \$19,999	\$1,000
\$10 - \$49	\$2	\$20,000 - \$49,999	\$2,000
\$50 - \$99	\$5	\$50,000 - \$99,999	\$5,000
\$100 - \$199	\$10	\$100,000 - \$199,999	\$10,000
\$200 - \$499	\$20	\$200,000 - \$499,999	\$20,000
\$500 - \$999	\$50	\$500,000 - \$999,999	\$25,000
\$1,000 - \$1,999	\$100	\$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999	\$50,000
\$2,000 - \$4,999	\$200	\$2,000,000 - \$9,999,999	\$100,000
\$5,000 - \$9,999	\$500	>= \$10,000,000	\$200,000

Note: Half-increment bidding is available prior to the live auction session.

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“Minimum Bid”, THE CONSIGNOR MAY PAY A REDUCED COMMISSION ON THOSE LOTS. “Minimum Bids” are generally posted online several days prior to the Auction closing. Any successful bid placed by a consignor on his property on the Auction floor, by any means during the live session, or after the “Minimum Bid” for an Auction have been posted, will require the consignor to pay full Buyer's Premium and Seller's Commissions on such lot. Auctioneer or its affiliates expressly reserve the right to modify any such bids at any time prior to the hammer based upon data made known to the Auctioneer or its affiliates.

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42. In consideration of participation in Auction and the placing of a bid, Bidder expressly releases Auctioneer, its officers, directors and employees, its affiliates, and its outside experts that provide second opinions, from any and all claims, cause of action, chose of action, whether at law or equity or any arbitration or mediation rights existing under the rules of any professional society or affiliation based upon the assigned description, or a derivative theory, breach of warranty express or implied, representation or other matter set forth within these Terms and Conditions of Auction or otherwise. In the event of a claim, Bidder agrees that such rights and privileges conferred therein are strictly construed as specifically declared herein, and are the exclusive remedy. Bidder, by non-compliance to these express terms of a granted remedy, shall waive any claim against Auctioneer.
43. Notice: Some merchandise sold by Auctioneer is inherently dangerous e.g. firearms, cannons, and small items that may be swallowed or ingested or may have latent defects all of which may cause harm to a person. Buyer accepts all risk of loss or damage from its purchase of these items and Auctioneer disclaims any liability whether under contract or tort for damages and losses, direct or consequential, and expressly disclaims any warranty as to safety or usage of any lot sold.

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 45. **Choice of Law:** Agreement and any Claim shall be determined and construed under Texas law.
 46. **Fees and Costs:** The prevailing party (a party that is awarded substantial and material relief on its damage claim based on damages sought versus awarded or the successful defense of a Claim based on damages sought versus awarded) may be awarded reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.
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50. Acceptance of these Terms and Conditions qualifies Bidder as a client who has consented to be contacted by Heritage in the future. In conformity with "do-not-call" regulations promulgated by the Federal or State regulatory agencies, participation by Bidder is affirmative consent to being contacted at the phone number shown in his application and this consent shall remain in effect until it is revoked in writing. Heritage may from time to time contact Bidder concerning sale, purchase, and auction opportunities available through Heritage and its affiliates and subsidiaries.
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"He was professional, knowledgeable,
responsive and exceeded our expectations.

We called 3 national auction houses to compare listing our items,
and it was because of Jim (Wolf), that we went with Heritage.

I manage five nonprofit entities and we will be referring anyone
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He is an asset to Heritage Auctions."

— K.R. | Texas



INQUIRIES

Jim Wolf | JWolf@HA.com | 214.409.1659

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Rolex, Very Fine and Rare 14k Gold
Ref. 6241 "Paul Newman" Cosmograph
Daytona "John Player Special", Circa 1969
Sold for: \$804,500

HERITAGE
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"The best parts
of working with Heritage are
the simplicity of drop-off of my
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– S.H. | California

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Ty Methfessel | 310.492.8650 | TyM@HA.com

Michael Madrigale | 212.486.3687 | MMadrigale@HA.com

Erin McGrath | 415.374.9553 | ErinM@HA.com

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Romanee Conti 2002

Domaine de la Romanee Conti

#00723

Bottle (1)

Sold for: \$15,990

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"I had been considering selling some of my jewelry for several years. And although I did not wear many of those pieces anymore, I wanted to make sure the items were sold by someone, and to someone, who could appreciate the beauty of the jewelry the same way I did. Heritage Auctions was the perfect fit. All of the specialists were so knowledgeable and took the time to highlight each item in the manner it deserved."

– Property of a Lady Collection | September 2020



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[HA.com/Jewelry](https://www.ha.com/jewelry)

Zambian Emerald, Diamond, Platinum Earrings, Tiffany & Co.

Sold for: \$150,000

Zambian Emerald, Diamond, Platinum Ring, Tiffany & Co.

Sold for: \$137,500

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² Primary office location: Beverly Hills

³ Primary office location: San Francisco

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Upcoming Auctions

NUMISMATICS	LOCATION	AUCTION DATES	CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE
US Coins - Donald Partrick Collection	Dallas	March 17-18, 2021	Closed
US Coins & Currency and World Paper Money	Chicago	April 21-27, 2021	March 1, 2021
World & Ancient Coins - Central States	Dallas	May 5-7, 2021	March 5, 2021
FINE & DECORATIVE ARTS	LOCATION	AUCTION DATES	CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE
Urban Art	Dallas	March 11, 2021	Closed
Asian Art	Dallas	March 16, 2021	Closed
Nature and Science	Dallas	March 19, 2021	Closed
Photographs	Dallas	April 10, 2021	Closed
Design	Dallas	April 20, 2021	Closed
Prints and Multiples	Dallas	April 22, 2021	February 18, 2021
Illustration Art	Dallas	April 23, 2021	February 18, 2021
Lalique & Art Glass	Dallas	April 29, 2021	February 17, 2021
American Art	Dallas	May 7, 2021	March 5, 2021
Fine Silver & Objects of Vertu	Dallas	May 13, 2021	March 3, 2021
Modern & Contemporary Art	Dallas	May 13, 2021	March 11, 2021
Texas Art	Dallas	May 21, 2021	March 18, 2021
Decorative Art	Dallas	May 28, 2021	March 18, 2021
European Art	Dallas	June 4, 2021	April 2, 2021
Ethnographic and Pre-Columbian Art	Dallas	June 11, 2021	April 1, 2021
Urban Art	Dallas	July 28, 2021	May 26, 2021
Design	Dallas	September 30, 2021	July 21, 2021
Asian Art	Dallas	October 1, 2021	July 22, 2021
Photographs	Dallas	October 5, 2021	August 2, 2021
MEMORABILIA & COLLECTIBLES	LOCATION	AUCTION DATES	CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE
Sports	Dallas	February 27, 2021	Closed
European Comic Art	Dallas	March 13, 2021	Closed
Movie Posters	Dallas	March 27, 2021	Closed
Comics & Comic Art	Dallas	April 1, 2021	Closed
Entertainment & Music Memorabilia	Dallas	April 10-11, 2021	Closed
Guitars & Musical Instruments	Dallas	April 11, 2021	Closed
Sports	Dallas	May 6-8, 2021	March 15, 2021
Animation Art	Dallas	May 14, 2021	March 24, 2021
Comics & Comic Art	Dallas	June 17, 2021	April 27, 2021
Entertainment & Music Memorabilia	Dallas	June 5-6, 2021	April 7, 2021
Guitars and Musical Instruments	Dallas	July 18, 2021	May 20, 2021
Movie Posters	Dallas	July 24, 2021	June 1, 2021
HISTORICAL COLLECTIBLES	LOCATION	AUCTION DATES	CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE
Americana and Political	Dallas	February 27-28, 2021	Closed
Americana and Political	Dallas	April 17, 2021	February 17, 2021
Historical Manuscripts	Dallas	May 19, 2021	March 22, 2021
Space Exploration	Dallas	May 21-22, 2021	March 23, 2021
Arms & Armor and Civil War & Militaria	Dallas	June 6, 2021	April 8, 2021
Rare Books	Dallas	June 9-10, 2021	April 12, 2021
LUXURY LIFESTYLE	LOCATION	AUCTION DATES	CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE
Wine	Beverly Hills	March 12, 2021	Closed
Real Estate	Sarasota, FL	March 23, 2021	Closed
Luxury Accessories	Dallas	May 2, 2021	February 25, 2021
Fine Jewelry	Dallas	May 3, 2021	February 16, 2021
Timepieces	Dallas	June 1, 2021	March 17, 2021
Wine	Beverly Hills	June 18, 2021	April 27, 2021

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ONLINE AUCTIONS

Comics | 6 PM Sundays & Mondays
Sports | 10 PM Sundays
Vintage Posters | 10 PM Sundays
Currency (US & World) | 7 PM Tuesdays
Jewelry | 9 PM Tuesdays
U.S. Coins | 7 PM Tuesdays & Wednesdays
Prints & Multiples | 2 PM Wednesdays
Photographs | 3 PM Third Wednesdays
Ancient Coins | 8 PM Wednesdays
World Coins | 8 PM Thursdays
Nature & Science | 8 PM Thursdays
Wine | 10 PM First Thursdays

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2/15/2021





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